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CONTENTS of 2nd Series, Vol. VIII.

	Page
Change in Landownership in Shropshire. By Stanley Leighton, M.P., F.S.A.	1
The Armorial Bearings of Shropshire Corporations. By A. C. Fox-Davies...	15
The Merchants' Gild of Shrewsbury. The Two Earliest Rolls, 1209-10 and 1219-20. Transcribed and annotated by the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, M.A.	21
The Shropshire Lay Subsidy Roll of 1327. With Introduction by the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, M.A., F.S.A., and Notes by Miss Auden. Chirbury Hundred	44
Selattyn : A History of the Parish. The Rectors (continued). By the Hon. Mrs. Bulkeley-Owen	61
History of Shrewsbury Hundred or Liberties. By the late Rev. John Brickdale Blakeway, M.A., F.S.A. Edited by the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, M.A., F.S.A.	
Meole Brace	99
Onslow	146
Preston Montford	150
Pulley	153 and 164
Pimley	160
Preston Goballs	165
The Drapers' Company Charter, 12 Jan., 1461-2. By the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, M.A.	175
In Memoriam : The Hon. and Rev. George Thomas Orlando Bridgeman, Honorary Canon of Liverpool. By Mrs. Baldwyn-Childe	191
"A Description of ye Clee, ye L'dships, Comoners and Strakers adjoynd, made about 1612, 10 Jac." Transcribed by the Rev. Ralph C. Purton, M.A.	195
The Ottley Papers relating to the Civil War. Edited by William Phillips, F.L.S.	199
Ruyton Church. By R. Lloyd Kenyon	313

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Armorial Bearings of Shropshire Corporations.	To face page	15
Facsimile Signature of John Jones	„	61
„ „ „ Henry Sacheverell, D.D. ...	„	66
Portrait of Dr. Sacheverell	To face page	78
Playing Cards, 6 and 10 of Diamonds :—		
Sacheverell arriving at Selattyn ... ... / Sacheverell receiving Institution to Selattyn	„	81
Meole Brace Church, taken down 1799	„	127
St Mary's Almshouses, Shrewsbury, erected 1450, taken down 1825	„	175
The Hon and Rev. Canon Bridgeman	„	191
Facsimile Signature of Prince Rupert	„	242
„ „ „ Sir Francis Ottley	„	244
„ „ „ Richard Hosier	„	253
Plan of the Capture of Shrewsbury, 1645 ...	To face page	274
Ruyton Church	„	313

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury, on Saturday, March 28th, 1896. Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., F.S.A., presided, and there were also present—Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart, Major Heber-Percy, Captain Williams-Freeman, the Revs. T. Auden, F.S.A., C. H. Drinkwater, Prebendary G H. Egerton and W. G. D. Fletcher, F.S.A, Dr. Calvert, Messrs. R. Lloyd Kenyon, J. Bowen-Jones, Humphrey Sandford, S. Clement Southam, H. R. H. Southam, W. Burson, G. Griffiths, and F. Goyne (Secretary).

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Secretary read the Annual Report of the Council as follows:—

In presenting their Annual Report the Council regret to announce the loss by death of two valued members of their body. Mr. John Calcott had been prevented by increasing deafness from taking much part in the work of the Council during the last few years, but he was formerly most regular in his attendance at the meetings, and at his death he showed his appreciation of the objects aimed at in the work of the Society by a valuable legacy of scientific books to the Shrewsbury Free Library. Archdeacon Lloyd, whose more recent death has left an unusually wide gap in almost all departments of public life in Shrewsbury and the neighbourhood, was not only a member of the Council, but a Vice-President of the Society. As such, he not only took deep interest in its work, but his wide and accurate knowledge of antiquity, especially as connected with Shropshire, made his advice of great value. His interesting paper on "The Shrewsbury Churches," read at the Annual Meeting four years ago, will be in the recollection of many, and he possesses a still more permanent memorial in the careful and conservative restoration which St. Mary's Church received during his tenure of that benefice. The Council regret that they have also lately lost the services of another member of their body, Mr. G. S. Corser, who has resigned on grounds of health. As regards the work of the Society during the past year, the *Transactions* have been issued with regularity, and, it is believed, have maintained their interest. The Council have also been in communication with the Camera Club with a view to securing a photographic survey of the county, and the subject is still under the consideration of that body. The Council have further directed their attention to the necessity of continuing the good work already done by Miss Jackson and Miss Burne in connection with the Folk-Lore of the county. There are still many unrecorded customs and superstitions of which it is desirable to take note before they vanish in the light of advancing education. The Council have appointed one of their number, Mr. S. Clement Southam, to give special attention to this subject. In the early part of the year the Council

received a communication from the Free Library Committee of the Corporation on the subject of the Shrewsbury Museum. Since the handing over of the contents of the Society's collection, on the formation of the Free Library, a dual control had existed which was not satisfactory; and the result of the negotiations referred to was a resolution unanimously passed at a special general meeting held for the purpose, March 29th, 1895, that the whole of the contents of the museum, together with all printed and written books in the Reference Library, belonging to the Society should be transferred to the Corporation as absolute owners for the use of the public. The Council wish to take this opportunity of alluding to another matter, though it belongs to the current year, not that covered by this report, namely, the course of lectures on English Gothic Architecture, just given for the benefit of the Society by Mr. D. H. S. Cranage, F.S.A., the author of the "Architectural Account of the Churches of Shropshire," now in course of publication. They have pleasure in recording the success of the lectures, and in expressing their sense of Mr. Cranage's great kindness in giving them. In conclusion the Council desire to express the hope that all discoveries of matters of archæological interest in the county will be communicated to them for investigation and permanent record, and that those who value such pursuits will use their influence with their friends to secure increased support for the Society.—

(Signed) THOMAS AUDEN, M.A., F.S.A., Chairman of the Council.

The Statement of Accounts showed a deficiency of £50 3s 10d.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the Report and Statement of Accounts. He said that he wished to join with those who drew up the Report in expressing his own personal regret as well as the regret of the Society at the loss they had sustained by the death of Archdeacon Lloyd, who was a very practical and accurate archæologist, and the work which he did for that Society and also for local archæology was very considerable indeed. (Applause). He was glad to know that the Society was arranging for a photographic survey of the county. He could not help thinking that they should endeavour in every possible way to use the photograph; it was a very cheap way of getting an accurate account of places which from one reason or another passed away, and now that they had lost their library of books, they had no means of retaining those photographs except by handing them over to the Corporation of Shrewsbury, who would be very pleased to keep any valuable antiquities, photographs, or illustrations which they might receive. (Hear, hear). The Statement of Accounts was one that called for some consideration on the part of those belonging to the Society, for it appeared that on the whole there was a considerable deficiency; but he did not see how they could spend much less than they did at present. He did not see that there was any waste, or any expenditure on superfluities. They had a very small income, and they had great results; but at the same time, he could not help saying that if they could enlarge the Society they might be able to do a greater work than they had hitherto undertaken. (Applause).

The Rev. T. AUDEN, in seconding the motion, said that allusion had been made in the Report to the loss which the Council had sustained more especially by the death of the late Archdeacon Lloyd, and he should like to mention another loss among the Vice-Presidents,

namely, the Rev. Canon Bridgeman, of Wigan, who took a great interest in the Society, and had at different times contributed to the *Transactions*. The subject of his life and work would very soon appear in that journal from the pen of Mrs. Baldwyn-Childe. Reference had been made to the question of economy in regard to the Society's work. He might say that they had been trying to practise economy, and at the last meeting of the Council the question was brought forward, when a way was thought of by which they could economise to a small degree; but what they really wanted was additional members. (Applause). There was still a considerable number of persons in good positions in the county, whose names were conspicuous by their absence in the list of members; but he had already heard of several new ones, and he had succeeded in finding one or two himself in the last few days, so that he hoped they would soon be in a better position. It should be remembered that there was always a leakage going on from deaths and other unavoidable causes, and it was necessary to fill the places of those who were taken away. The only way in which they could really succeed in getting additional members was by each of the existing members trying to persuade his friends to join. (Hear, hear). He ventured to put this in a letter which he had sent out, and was thankful to say that it had already borne some fruit. (Hear, hear). He should like to mention in connection with the transfer of books to the Corporation that at the last meeting of the Free Library Committee it was suggested by a member, not connected with that Society, that, in consideration of the great benefit which, directly and indirectly, would accrue to the Corporation through getting possession of these records, there should be some recognition, and it was unanimously resolved that a subscription of three guineas be paid by the Free Library to the Society in consideration of the gift. He hoped that so good an example would be followed in other ways. (Hear, hear). He was glad to say, with regard to another subject alluded to in the Report, that the lectures on English Gothic Architecture had been a success in every way. The meetings had been well attended, and he hoped they would gain as a net result something like £20. (Hear, hear). Mr. Cranage, when he was kind enough to make the offer to give the lectures, said he was very anxious not merely to secure an audience, but to create a real interest in the work of that Society, in which he himself took a very deep interest (Applause).

The motion for the adoption of the Report and Statement of Accounts was then put and carried unanimously.

Sir Offley Wakeman moved that the following be elected Vice-Presidents of the Society:—Lord Hawkesbury, Lord Kenyon, Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., and Mr. H D. Greene, Q.C., M.P. He remarked that it had been suggested to him by a high authority that he should take that opportunity to bring before the Society a matter which had been in the clouds for the last few months, but which was now about to take a more definite form. Some time ago, partly owing to the suggestion of Mr. Fox Davies, he was asked to take the necessary

steps for obtaining a proper and authorised grant of Arms for the county. It had been the custom for some time past for the county to use the borough Arms, but since it was possible for the county to obtain a grant of Arms for themselves, it was hardly becoming to go on using those belonging to the borough. (Hear, hear). Last summer he broached the subject to the late Chairman of the County Council (Mr. S. K. Mainwaring), and since then he had spoken to the present Chairman, and in each case received a favourable answer. He had also spoken to the Rev. T. Auden and the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher on the matter. As to the financial part of the business, he proposed that it should be a condition that no expense should fall on the public. (Hear, hear). That would not be at all right, and he would himself undertake to indemnify them from any expense, though, perhaps, he should ask some of his friends to help him in the matter. (Hear, hear). He had been in communication with the College of Arms, and thought there would be no difficulty on their part; in fact, he was in a position to say that the county would be able to receive a grant from them which would not depart widely from the old historical loggerheads. If the Society would give their approval to the proposal, it would strengthen his hands when the matter came to be mentioned to the County Council.

The Rev. Prebendary G. H. Egerton seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Lloyd Kenyon proposed the re-election of the old Council, with the addition of the Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. Vane, the Rev. H. Stokes, and Mr. D. H. S. Cranage; and, in doing so, remarked that he did not quite understand how an addition to their number was going to get them out of their financial difficulties. They owed over £50, and the ordinary expenses were fully up to the ordinary income. He thought the Council would have to take into consideration whether it would not be advisable to publish less numbers of the *Transactions* for a few years until the Society was out of debt. (Hear, hear). With regard to the proposed grant of Arms, he thought it was quite right that the county should be put on a proper historical footing.

Mr. H. R. H Southam seconded, and asked whether some of the outstanding subscriptions could not be got in.

The Secretary replied that the Council had considered the matter, and had decided that the assets of the Society were not worth more than the sum stated in the Balance Sheet.—The motion was carried.

ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

On the proposition of Captain Williams-Freeman, seconded by Mr. Griffiths, Dr Calvert was re-elected auditor, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to him for his services during the year.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The CHAIRMAN then delivered the following address:—At the annual gatherings of this Society our object is not so much to transact business and to pass accounts as to take note of what we have accomplished, and to discuss in a tentative way what in the future we might, under favouring circumstances, take in hand. In the modest and admirable words of the preface to Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, we may say, "We have cleared away some errors, but we cannot flatter ourselves that none remain for the elucidation of future enquirers." (Hear, hear). In historical and archæological pursuits, the student looks at the past through the spectacles of the present, and as in each successive generation the standpoint is moved, so is the perspective changed, the colouring modified, the horizon enlarged. We note among the antiquaries of to-day a commendable desire to consult original documents, and to verify references. "It is not imaginable," says an accomplished writer, "to those who have not tried, what labours an historian, that would be exact, is condemned to. He must read all, good and bad, and remove a world of rubbish before he can lay the foundation." The unique situation of Shrewsbury, the centre not only of Shropshire, but of Wales—(laughter)—and the special facilities of communication with which our railway system has endowed it, seem to favour the idea of a federation of the Archæological Societies of the Principality with the Society of this county. At all events, the long and intimate association of, and co-operation between, the inhabitants of Salop and Montgomeryshire, the fact that the Powysland Club overlaps our boundary, and certain financial reasons which affect both Societies, afford some grounds for hoping that at some time or other the Shropshire and Powysland archæologists may agree to use at least one common volume for their publications. A rich, in other words, a large, society has great advantages, especially with regard to illustrating its papers and maintaining its staff. I think that the illustrations both in our volumes and those of the Powysland Club might be improved both in number and quality. The value of engravings can hardly be too highly estimated. They give a far more definite idea of things than letterpress. They explain a building, a monument, a costume, a portrait, indeed any artistic work which we desire to rescue from oblivion, better than the most exact, elaborate, and technical description. One of our Shropshire antiquaries, Farmer Dukes, compiled a list of books connected with this county, and also of portraits and engravings. The time has come when this catalogue may be largely supplemented. There is a wealth of original portraits often unnamed, sometimes misnamed, in our country houses, in our public buildings, museums, and libraries. They would well repay the trouble of listing, and possibly of reproducing in a sketch catalogue. Of late years there has been established in London a National Portrait Gallery. A local portrait gallery, in the shape of a book illustrated with sketches of the originals, notices of the lives of the

local celebrities, and references to the houses in which they are to be found, would be a great contribution to the history of this county. (Hear, hear). I have often spoken both here and elsewhere on the importance of preserving parochial registers by printing and indexing them. I make no apology for repeating myself on this occasion. The process of publishing these registers is going on slowly and uncertainly; the process of decay is also going on slowly and certainly. This is a subject that has not been much, if at all, attended to by the fathers of the Church—the Bishops. They are overwhelmed with work of another kind. Among ordinary people there is much ignorance both of the importance and the extent and difficulty of the work. I commend this practical task to all Archæological Societies. It lies within the legitimate sphere of their operations It is of pressing urgency. At a meeting of the Royal Archæological Institute here last year one of the members, who was an expert in this particular line, said there were only fifteen monumental brasses in Shropshire. I should like to see this statement verified. I suspect that there are more, and I am glad to note our Society is reproducing the brasses in its publications. In the British Museum there are two magnificent volumes of the sepulchral monuments of Shropshire by Williams. I do not know whether the work is absolutely perfect; but certainly since his time many more might be added. A most valuable aid would be afforded to local history if the illustrations in these volumes could be reproduced on such a scale as to be included in a portable volume. In such a volume we should have an interesting evidence of the changes in religion, ideas, and taste. I have now lightly touched on many points, but by no means exhausted the subject, not for the purpose of criticising what we have done and are doing, but with the object of pointing out what an immense storehouse of material we have still within our reach; and the trained antiquaries in this room are well aware of the many departments of our work to which I have not alluded to at all. (Applause).

On the motion of Mr. H. SANDFORD, seconded by Mr. CLEMENT SOUTHAM, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Stanley Leighton for his interesting address, after which the meeting terminated.

THE ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion in connection with the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society took place on Wednesday, June 17th, 1896, and although the pleasure of the outward journey was somewhat marred owing to the rainfall during the morning, the excursion was exceedingly interesting and enjoyable. A very attrac-

tive programme had been arranged, and the party included the Rev. T. Auden, F.S.A., Miss Auden, Miss Corser, the Rev. A. Thursby Pelham, Mr. W. Phillips, F.L.S., Mr. Humphrey Sandford, the Rev. J. Neale, Captain Williams-Freeman, Mr. S. Clement Southam, Mr. L. A. C. Southam, Mr. George Griffiths, Weston, Mr. E. Griffiths, Mr. Herbert Southam, Mr. Richard Phillips, Mr. J. Nurse, Mr. W. Bowdler, and Mr. F. Goyne (Secretary). The rain in the early morning had the effect of deterring a number of members from joining the excursion. The party met at the Shrewsbury Railway Station at ten o'clock, and travelled in a saloon carriage by the 10-5 train for Church Stretton. On arriving at Church Stretton, although there was a heavy downpour of rain, the excursionists entered the carriages which were in waiting at the station, and a move was made for Longville by way of Hope Bowdler and Wall. A heavy mist hung over the hills. On approaching Longville the rain abated, and the party alighting proceeded across the fields and through the woods to

WILDERHOPE,

which was formerly the seat of the Smallmans. but is now used as an ordinary farmhouse. It dates from the latter part of the 16th century, and has some very elaborate plaster ceilings. When all had assembled in the large "kitchen," the Rev. T. Auden read the following short paper on Wilderhope, which had been prepared by the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, F.S.A. :—

The early history of Wilderhope is given in Eyton's *Antiquities*, vol. iv., p. 100, &c. There is also a description of the house in Mrs. Stackhouse Acton's *Castles and Mansions of Shropshire*, p. 44. The house is an interesting and well-preserved specimen of a stone house built in the latter end of Elizabeth's reign. According to Mrs. Stackhouse Acton, it was finished in the year 1593. The building is entirely of stone, with some beautiful plaster ceilings, the details of which it is difficult to make out, owing to the ceilings having been whitewashed over. The initials "FS." occur in the centre of a circle, with a legend which looks like "IST. VEM. AN. DROIT. V." round the circle. The initials "FS." and "ES." occur four times, also "IESU" in a shield, fleur-de-lis, portcullis, roses, and three feathers (Prince of Wales's). Mrs. Acton states that the motto is "Mal mea Dea est," also "ES. FS. RS. 1601," but I have not found RS. 1601, nor can I follow her reading of the motto. In a small panelled room adjoining the kitchen is the date 1672, and the letters "T. S. I." on panelling over the fireplace, thus showing when the room was panelled, and who did the work. There may have been an inscription outside the house over the front door, but if so, constant painting and whitewashing have obliterated it, if there ever were any. The house was, if not erected, at all events renovated by Francis Smalman of Wilderhope, who was buried at Rushbury, 25th July, 1599, and whose will was proved in the P.C.C. on 3rd August, 1599. The letters "FS." and "ES." on the plastered ceilings evidently

stand for this Francis Smalman and Ellen his wife. He had no legitimate issue, but by his will he "gave the glass in the windows of the house wherein he dwelt at Wilderhope to his nephew Stephen Smalman." He did not dispose of Wilderhope in his will, so probably he held it only as tenant to his brother Thomas Smalman, of Elton. This Thomas Smalman, who is described in his will as "of the Inner Temple, esq," died 22 June, 1590, and was buried in the Inner Temple Church. By his will, which was proved in the P.C.C. on 2nd March, 1590, he devised his lands in Wilderhop and in Rushburie, which he had purchased from Rowland Lacon, Esq., and Richard Parramore, to his son Stephen in tail male, with remainders over to his other sons; and directed that his brother Francis should have a lease of the lands in Wilderhope for such a term as Stephen should grant him. From an Inquisition taken after the death of Thomas Smallman on 9 January, 1590-1, it appears that Francis Smallman had a lease of a messuage and lands in Wilderhope, formerly Richard Parramore's, for 40 years from Michaelmas 1584; and that Thomas Smallman in 1583 levied a fine and purchased the reversion of these premises from Richard Parramore, and also the farm of Wildertop and lands there from Rowland Lacon, Esq. He thus became possessed of the Manor of Wilderhope; and in 1586 he bought Nether Stanway and Neenton.

The initials "T.I.S." in the small panelled room refer to Thomas Smalman (great-grandson of Thomas referred to) and Jane his wife, a daughter of Sir Richard Prince. Thomas was a lieutenant in the Royalist army, and compounded for his delinquency in May, 1649, and on 23rd June was fined £140, which he paid on 6th Aug., 1650. He afterwards lived at Neenton, where he was buried 4th December, 1693. He must not be confounded with his uncle, the celebrated Major Thomas Smallman, of whom Mr Wm. Phillips has given a full account in the "Ottley Papers," printed in the *Transactions*. Wilderhope was finally sold in 1720 to Thomas Lutwyche, of Lutwyche. It now belongs to Mrs. Hippisley.

The Smallmans are a family of great antiquity in Corvedale. One Richard Smallman held lands in Long Stanton as early as 1229. Richard, son of John Smalemon of Shipton, occurs in connection with land in Thonglands in 1315; and in 1327 he was assessed to the Subsidy in respect of lands in Rushbury and Shipton.

Mr. Auden announced that since he had left home Mr. Griffiths of Weston, had put into his hands a copy of a letter written by the late Rev. John Wakefield, Vicar of Hughley, to Lord Bradford, which contained some particulars which he had gathered in reference to his own parish.

He first referred to a rock near Wilderhope, called "Ippikin's Rock," which, he asserted, was the last of three on the Wenlock Edge, above the Lower Hill Farm, and lay in the direction of Church Stretton. Ippikin was a famous robber, and not very sparing of human life when it seemed to stand in the way of his "professional" success. He lived in a cave near the top of a rock, which was very

difficult of access, with a large band of followers. Lights were often seen in the cave by the people of the valley, but as there were a number of large forests around which were the resort of robbers, the peaceable people of the district were not much induced to provoke their displeasure by meddling with them. He was, however, killed at last, and his ghost was said to haunt the favourite rocks for some time after. An old inhabitant had stated that his father could remember when a large portion of the Kenley, Preen, and Cardington parishes was a thick wood or forest, and squirrels could jump from tree to tree from one end to the other. Another matter of interest in the letter was the reference made to "The Major's Leap."

After a battle, either of Bridgnorth or Worcester, a soldier of the Royalist party, Major Smallman, being pursued by a party of Parliamentarians, fled in the direction of Much Wenlock, in the hope of reaching his own house at Wilderhope, near Lutwych, by tiring his pursuers. Being too closely followed to entertain any hope of escaping them he rode to the top of Wenlock Edge, and leaped from a rock which is situated near Blakeway Farm. The Parliamentarians, supposing him to have been killed by the fall, and not being able to learn the result except by going miles round, rode away. A crabtree broke his fall, but caused the death of his horse. The major escaped unhurt, climbed along the rock through the wood, and made his escape under cover of the Edge and the wood to his own house at Wilderhope.

Mr. Auden remarked that in reading the letter he had inverted the terms, since Mr Wakefield had described Major Smallman as a Parliamentarian, which was quite enough to cause his ghost to walk, for it was clear he was a Royalist. (Laughter).—A conversation took place as to the plaster work on the ceilings, and it was pointed out that at the period from which it dated there was one set of Italians who did the ceilings.

After examining other portions of the interesting old house, the walk was continued through the fields to

LUTWYCHE,

originally belonging to the family of that name, and now the property of R. B. Benson, Esq. On arriving at Mr. Benson's delightful residence the visitors were invited by Mr. and Mrs. Benson to partake of light refreshments before examining the various objects of interest which the building contains. A stone cup, found in the neighbourhood of Lutwyche, and which was said to belong to the Neolithic age, was exhibited by Mr. Benson. Mr. Auden said he had had an opportunity of showing the cup at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, and the general opinion was that it is British It was found, in sinking a well, at Longville, in blue clay, 30 feet below the surface. It was very curious and interesting. Mr. Phillips pointed out that the doubt which existed as to the cup being British was due to the fact that it was found in a deep deposit of clay.

Mr. Benson then gave a brief description of Lutwyche, which dates in part from 1587. In front of the house are the letters and figures—"E. L., 1587." The house was built about that year by Sir Edward Lutwyche. The plaster decorations in the hall were very fine, and were probably done by Italian artists in the 17th or beginning of the 18th centuries. About 1776 the house and estate passed out of the hands of Lutwyche, and were owned by a Mr. Langford The house was then of red brick and gabled, as it is now, but Mr. Langford covered it with stucco. His (Mr. Benson's) grandfather removed the stucco from the walls, and took up the court-yard in adding two rooms. Lutwyche was purchased by his (Mr. Benson's) great-great-grandfather about the year 1806. When the house was restored there were enough of the old bricks to be used outside, but the builder thought he was doing the right thing by using the old bricks inside and the new ones outside. (Laughter). Mr. Benson then described some interesting paintings, including Captain Riou Benson, who was killed at the battle of Copenhagen, Judge Lutwyche, and others.

On leaving Lutwyche, Mr. and Mrs. Benson accompanied the party in the carriages to Easthope Church, where they were met by the Rev. J. O. Crosse, the son of the Vicar. There was a church here as early as 1291, when it was valued at under £4 per annum, and paid 3s to the Vicar of Cound, but nothing of so early a date remains in the present building except the font. The east window is decorated, and in the south wall is a low side window of the 14th or 15th century, with the hinge still *in situ*. The woodwork is especially noticeable. The pews bear the inscription :—"Edward Ball of London gave this pullpitt and pewes to this parishe wheare he was borne : June : 28 : Anno Domini : 1623." Opposite to this is :—"It is God that worketh in us both to will and also to worke : even of good will : E.B. : June : 28 : Anno Domini : 1623." The most remarkable feature of the church is the ancient hour-glass, which is on iron scroll-work four inches in height, and six inches in breadth. The height of the glass is eight inches. To the middle is attached, projecting at right angles, an iron plate bearing the date 1662. The front and lower margins represent sections of Gothic mouldings. In the centre is a heart-shaped perforation, with a perforated "S" shape marking on each side. At the point where the date-bearing plate unites with the stand is a fleur-de-lis. The stand and glass are suspended from the pulpit by a strong twisted iron bent bracket arm. In the churchyard, under a yew tree, are two ancient crosses, said to mark the graves of two monks of Wenlock. Little is known of the history of Easthope Church. Its patronage in early days was in the hands of the lord of the manor. In 1383 William Garmston was deprived of the benefice, he having murdered John de Easthope, the patron. In 1777 the advowson passed to the Lutwyche family.

Before leaving the churchyard Mr. Auden tendered, on behalf of the visitors, thanks to Mr. Crosse, for accompanying them in the church. He at the same time expressed their deep thanks to

Mr. and Mrs. Benson for their kindness and hospitality. After the miserable drive they had, it was a pleasant "haven of rest" when they found themselves at Lutwyche.

The carriages then proceeded past Larden (the residence of Mr. R. J. More, M.P.), and the Moor House, and a halt was made at

SHIPTON HALL,

which is now unoccupied. It is a most delightful place. In 1549 the Manor of Shipton, which had belonged to the Prior of Wenlock, was devised by John Lutwyche to his cousin, Edward Mytton, of Worcester; but William Mytton, who was Sheriff in 1456, is described as of Shipton. The hall was for many generations the seat of the Myttons, and is a fine specimen of the architecture of Elizabeth's reign. Shipton Church, close to the hall, and which has the unusual feature of an Elizabethan chancel, was not entered, as the key was kept at a distance of a mile from the church. The Church was originally a chapelry of Wenlock Abbey, and after the Dissolution, was granted to Sir Thomas Palmer, Knight, subject to the payment of 53s. 4d. for the stipend of one chaplain for the cure and other observances celebrated at Shipton. He was executed for treason in Queen Mary's reign. From Shipton the drive was continued to

HOLGATE.

Here the church contains a fine Norman doorway, and a remarkable font, dating from the same period. Near the church is a large circular mound, probably marking an early settlement, and adjoining are the remains of the mediæval castle originally founded by Helgot, one of William the Conqueror's followers, and last used as a garrison of the Royalists in the Civil War. In *Domesday* Holgate was called Stanton. Henry I. was entertained at Holgate by Herbert Fitz Holgate. It passed to Robert de la Mare, who died in 1193 at Benevento, on his way home from the Crusades. Later it passed to Thomas Mauduit, who had licence in 1222 for a weekly market. In 1253 the Baron had his own Court and his own gallows. About 1258 Holgate was alienated to Richard Plantagenet, King of the Romans, who conveyed it to the Knight Templars, who had a settlement at Lidley (Cardington). In 1284 it was held by Bishop Barnell, and in 1292 the old castle was not valued, because it yielded nothing. It passed later through the Lovels to the Duke of Norfolk. Leland says: "Holgate Castle standeth under Clee hilles . . . . the Duke of Norfolk exchanged it for other lands with Mr. Dudley." It was too dilapidated in 1645 to be worth holding by the Parliament; but was earlier held for the king. With regard to Holgate Church, Mr. Auden explained that it had three prebends in 1210—the first and third were in the hands of the Abbot of Shrewsbury, and the second in the hands of the Lord of Holgate. In 1290 Richard de Eyton, prebendary of Holgate, gave Bishop Swinfield oats and hay

when at Stanton Lacy and Stokesay. The church is mainly Norman, with windows of a later period. The west tower was added in the 13th century, the lower part being Early English, and the upper part Perpendicular. In the west wall there is a curious opening. The church has lately been restored, and Mr. Auden said he was glad to see that its interesting features had not been destroyed in the restoration.

After leaving Holgate the drive was continued to Church Stretton, and the party returned in the saloon carriage to Shrewsbury, by the 6-55 p.m. train. The expedition was greatly enjoyed by all, and the arrangements made by Mr. Auden and the secretary (Mr. Goyne) greatly enhanced the pleasure of the excursion.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

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Statement of Accounts for the Year 1895.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand of Treasurer, Jan. 1, 1895	4	10	7
,, Members' Subscriptions	159	10	0
	£164	0	7

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
By Messrs. Woodall, Minshall, and Co., part payment for printing *Transactions*	115	0	0
,, Messrs. Adnitt and Naunton, part payment of Account	15	0	0
,, Secretary's Salary	5	0	0
,, Rents, Rates, and Tithe, Wroxeter	4	8	6
,, Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, Postage Stamps and Carriage of Parcels, as Editor...	1	0	0
,, Postage Stamps, General Correspondence, Calling Meetings, Collecting Subscriptions, &c.	2	13	4
,, Posting *Transactions* to Members and Carriage of Parcels	6	11	11
,, Commission	7	19	6
,, Subscriptions to Congress of Archæological Societies 1894 and 1895	2	0	0
,, Annual Excursion Deficit	0	3	7
,, Balance in hand of Bankers, Dec. 31, 1895	4	3	9
	£164	0	7

March 24, 1896. Examined and found correct,

(Signed). E. CALVERT.

Auditor.

CHANGES IN LAND OWNERSHIP IN SHROPSHIRE.

By STANLEY LEIGHTON, M.P., F.S.A.

"TEMPORA mutantur et nos mutamur in illis." Four hundred years ago, towards the close of the Feudal period, red deer and roe were running wild over the Forest of Clun. On the slopes of the Stiperstone range, before modern miners had recommenced the work of their Roman predecessors, Hockstow deer forest extended right up to Caus Castle. The antlers found in the meres round Baschurch and Ellesmere show the presence of red deer in North Shropshire also. What was the population of the county at that time we cannot accurately ascertain, but the inhabitants were not scattered as now broadcast over the land, but were gathered together for protection in the walled towns, or in villages which nestled under the battlements of castles. Few were the outlying residences, and these were usually surrounded by a moat. Contrasting with the wildness of the surrounding scenery (for there was then no model farming), some forty or fifty castles gave point to the landscape, some of them well-built, and covering several acres in extent; but more imposing than the strongholds of the landowners in scale and stateliness were the Abbeys of the Religious Orders, of which Shropshire had her fair proportion. An honest study of what remains to us of the past helps us to observe the continuity of change, both in the outward appearance of the land and the personality of its inhabitants. The twelve Abbeys and Priories of Shropshire, the hospital of the Knights Templars, and a number of friaries are all gone. The forty castles of Shropshire are all gone as residences of importance. I

can only recall three or four which have a vestige of roof left upon their walls. Stokesay is a beautiful but dismantled shell. Shrewsbury Castle, of which Leland said "it hath been a stronge thinge, but is now much in ruin," suffered still further disfigurement in the beginning of this century at the hands of Laura, Countess of Bath, and her architect Telford, the famous road engineer. Wattlesborough is used as a farm house, and its square Norman tower is covered with a modern roof. Apley Castle is used as a stable, and little but the foundation is left. Broncroft has been modernised. Of the four walled towns of Shropshire—Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Ludlow, and Oswestry, hardly a vestige of gate or wall can now be traced. The original owners have passed away with their castles. Compare the feudal baronage of Shropshire with its modern peerage:—Fitzalan, Audeley, Boteler, Burnel, Charlton de Powys, Corbet of Caus, Fitz-Herbert, Fitz-Warin, Lacy, Mortimer, Pantulf, Say, Stafford, Strange, Montgomery. All these once-famous names are unfamiliar now. When Noel Hill, the eldest son of Thomas Harwood, was created Lord Berwick of Attingham in 1784 he was the only resident peer in the county. There were, indeed, two Irish peers, Kilmorey and Clive; but, as far as I know, no resident English peer, unless Earl Gower of Lilleshall be counted. In the appendix will be found lists of the Tudor, the Georgian, and the Victorian peers of Shropshire and it will be observed how short has been the family tenure of hereditary rank. But ruins and dismantled houses each have their own story to tell, which will generally repay the trouble of discovery. Stokesay points to the rise of commerce, one of the powerful factors in England's greatness. Its builder was Laurence, a clothier, of Ludlow, who adopted the name of his town, and erected this charming castellated mansion in 1290. "It was not," says Eyton, "till the reign of Edward I. that mercantile wealth could thus readily be exchanged for territorial importance." After passing by heirship to the Vernons,

Stokesay again fell into mercantile hands, and was purchased in the reign of Elizabeth or James I. by the aldermanic family of Craven, who sold it about 1870 again for money made in business to the family of Allcroft, its present owners. In feudal as well in modern times wealth often came through heiresses, and there are few families with large possessions which do not owe much to female inheritance—a fact which, I suppose, inspired the old punning legal rhyme—

> "Fee simple, simple Fee,
> And all the Fees in tail,
> Are nothing when compared with thee,
> Thou best of Fees, Fe(e)male"

Whether the duties and the dangers of feudal superiority brought its possessors more quickly to extinction than the conditions of modern pre-eminence is a problem worthy of consideration. Special advantages, whether social, political, pecuniary, or literary, seem perilous to the envied owners. Eyton concludes a notice of the Fitzalans with these words:—"Having now given some account of eight successive representatives of Alan Fitz Flaad, this retrospective observation suggests itself, viz., that not one of these eight Fitzalans attained the age of sixty years; only two passed the age of fifty; three died between forty and fifty; one between thirty and forty; and two others died under thirty." The fate of the Staffords who inherited Caus Castle from the Corbets, and having inter-married with the Plantagenets stept into the highest grade of nobility, is equally instructive. In the second generation Edmund, the fifth earl, having succeeded a brother who was murdered, and two other brothers, who died childless, was himself killed at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. His son, who was made Duke of Buckingham, was slain at Northampton in 1460. His son was slain at St. Alban's. His son was beheaded at Salisbury in 1483, and his son was beheaded on Tower Hill in 1521. The Royal House of England for the last eight centuries has been represented by seven families, but never during

all that time by a purely English dynasty in the male line. The Conqueror William was a Norman; Stephen, a Frenchman; Henry II., an Angevin or Plantagenet; Henry VII., a Welshman or Owen; James I., a Scotchman or Stuart; William III., a Dutchman of the House of Orange; George I., a Guelph or Hanoverian; and the Prince of Wales represents the distinguished German House of Coburg. The feudal scheme of society, the outgrowth of surrounding circumstances rather than of settled policy, linked enormous duties with corresponding position. Recognised and customary obligations, which could not easily or safely be avoided, appertained to the ownership of land, almost the only form in which at that time wealth could be capitalised. There is danger to any State when the conditions of political service dissociate property from public responsibilities. In old England the castle represented military duty. The abbey represented religious, educational, and civil obligations. The towns, with their exclusive guilds and chartered privileges, were the guardians of municipal government and the protectors of trade. The custom of primogeniture, economical in its primary idea, is democratic in its direct consequences. While the eldest son of a baronial house was endowed with the land, almost to the exclusion of his brethren, he was at the same time ladened with specific military and civil responsibilities. The cadets of the house, equally noble in blood, but according to our English custom, simply commoners, were obliged by the necessities of their position to seek a livelihood in trades or professions. There was no caste, and as the ranks of the barons and knights were ever and anon recruited from the professional and mercantile classes, so the trades and professions were as often recruited from the younger sons of the nobility. In the great Council of the nation, the Bishops and Abbots were life peers, as numerous and influential as the hereditary nobility, and they were summoned by a similar writ. Whether a summons was regarded, as a burden or a privilege, is not quite clear, nor is it certain

by what means an ecclesiastical or lay peer could assert his right if he failed to receive his summons. Certain it is that the Abbots of many Religious Houses, as well as the owners of land by baronial tenure, were sometimes summoned and sometimes passed over. The lesser landowners were represented by knights of the shire in the House of Commons, and the citizens of the towns by burgesses. Shropshire returned two Knights of the Shire, and Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth two burgesses each from 1295. In 1472 Ludlow was made a Parliamentary Borough, Wenlock in 1478, Bishop's Castle in 1585, so that the county returned in all 12 members to Parliament, instead of its present quota of 5. What a shrinkage of relative importance in the council of the nation!

In the Appendix I have given large extracts from Leland's *Itinerary;* here I will only give a few quotations. The Shropshire "Black" country, at present the most important area in the county, with its 50,000 inhabitants, he thus alludes to:—

> Yerne is made yn certen Places of Shropshire and especially yn the wooddes betwixt Belvoys (Buildwas) and Wenloke.
>
> Colys be digged hard by Ombridge (Wombridge) where the Priory was.

It will be remembered that the delimitation of the boundary between England and Wales was not finally completed till the 28th year of Henry VIII. A statute passed in 1537 introduced the shire system into what are now the counties of Brecknock, Radnor, Montgomery, Denbigh, and Flint. The parishes of Ellesmere, Oswestry, Chirbury, Clun, and others were definitely appropriated to Shropshire. Under Montgomeryshire, Leland writes—

> Clune Castell longynge to the Erle of Arundel, somewhat ruinous. It hath been both stronge and well builded. Clune was a lordship itself a fore the new Acte. (28 Henry VIII.)
>
> By Clune is a great Forest of redde dere and rois longynge to the Lord of Arundel.

All Chirbyri Hundred by the new Acte is adjecte to Shrobbshire. It apperithe in the Acte what Lordshippes be adjoyne'd to the v new Shires.

I am glad to note here that the Castle of Clun has lately been purchased by the present Duke of Norfolk, and thus a descendant of the famous Shropshire family of Fitzalan, and the holder of the Feudal Barony of Clun and Oswaldstree, is again a Shropshire man.

Leland gives a list of some of the landowners in Shropshire in his day. It is not a complete list, but it is instructive. He mentions only 29, and in 18 cases he adds an estimate of their incomes. The list is headed by the name of Sir John Talbot of Albrighton Park, without mentioning his reputed income.

Amongst the others occur the names of

	£
Corbet of Morton 800 merk of land =	520
Sir Robert Needham of Shavington	260
Newporte of Archaul (High Ercall)	200
Vernon of Hodnet	140
Mitton of Cotton by Shrowsbyri	135
Oteley of Pitchford Lee of Langley	100

There are eight others who are credited with an income of between £50 and £100 a year, and three more with £40.

Comparing Leland's list with the modern Domesday Book of 1873, I can find only six of the same names; while the comparison of incomes shows the enormous relative depreciation in the value of money.

In 1873

			£			
3	Shropshire	landowners	are credited	with	over	30,000
			£			
2	„	„	under 30,000	and	over	20,000
8	„	„	„ 20,000	„	„	10,000
27	„	„	„ 10,000	„	„	5,000
164	„	„	„ 5,000	„	„	1,000

I pass now to another standard by which we may measure the progress of change. Christopher Sax-

ton's Elizabethan map of Shropshire marks twenty-four parks, not probably all deer parks, but fenced enclosures used for cattle as well as game, and in all cases indicating a residence of importance. There are now (1895), I think, ten deer parks in Shropshire, but only one, Oteley near Ellesmere, which I think was disparked at one time, is identical with any in Saxton's list. Eight, however, of his parks are still represented by mansions. Between the reigns of Elizabeth and Victoria several new parks have been made and have since been disparked. (See appendix.)

As illustrating the devolution in the ownership in land, the map of Basil Wood of the White Abbey is useful. It was made about the year 1715 and professes to mark the country houses in the county, and in the margin are the names and the arms of 200 owners. This map is not exhaustive of the subject, and there are mistakes as well as omissions; nevertheless it is astonishing to notice how many of the 200 names enumerated have disappeared, and how many new names and houses have sprung up in the interval. For instance, neither Hawkstone nor Attingham appear in this map, and three-fourths of the families whose names and arms are recorded are no longer represented in the male descent. I give the list in the appendix.

The names of those who, during the troubled period of the Civil War, took part on one side or the other, prove that the Rebellion was a struggle not of class against class, as was the French Revolution, but of the supporters of one Theory of Government and Religion against the supporters of another. Amongst those who in Shropshire favoured the Parliamentary side are to be found:—

The Earl of Bridgewater, President of the Court of the Marches of Wales, and a patron of Richard Baxter

The Earl of Denbigh

General Mytton of Halston, and his brother-in-law Myddelton of Chirk Castle

Corbet of Adderley
Corbet of Stanwardine
Matthew Herbert of Oakley Park
Mackworth of Betton
Clive of Styche
Lloyd of Aston
Powell of Park
Baker of Sweeney
Evans of Treflach
Hunt of Shrewsbury, afterwards of Borreatton
More of Linley
Jones of Kilhendre (a Regicide)
Charlton of Apley
Mitton of Shipton
Edwardes of Greet
Cotton of Bellaport
Forester
Harcourt Leighton of Plash
Fowler
Norton
Pierpoint of Tong
Young of Cainton
Kinnersley of Badger
Leighton Owen of Bragginton
Botterell
Waring
Wingfield
Betton
Amongst the waverers were Lord Herbert of Chirbury and the Owens of Condover.

I have pointed out how entirely the castles have disappeared as residences. It is difficult to put one's hand on an inhabited house of the fourteenth century, and not easy to find one of the fifteenth and the sixteenth centuries. The most ancient residence in Shropshire still used, I believe to be the Prior's house at Wenlock, and it is certainly one of the most interesting. Since the dissolution it has passed through many hands, and is now, happily, in the possession of Mr. Milnes Gaskell, who well knows how to preserve its character. I will mention a few other old houses: Plash, near Cardington, can show some remains of Tudor Gothic, intermixed with Elizabethan work, and it has not been much touched during the last two centuries and a half, until it was lately carefully restored. Condover is the largest and best example of the later Elizabethan style in the county. The Whitehall, however, in Shrewsbury, is perhaps as a whole more characteristic, because its surroundings, its gate-house, its dovecot, its walled gardens and its stables are still pretty much as they were. There is a good example of an early seventeenth century dovecot and barn at Hodnet. Whitton Court, near Ludlow, Lydston, in Claverly, Madeley Court, Lutwyche, Belswardyne, Shipton, Upton Cressett, and

Plowden are among the sixteenth and seventeenth century houses which are still maintained as residences. But, generally, we must seek for old examples of domestic architecture in farm houses, and in many of these the original character is well preserved. Black and white timbered houses are to be found all over Shropshire, especially in the towns, and, above all other towns, in Shrewsbury. Pitchford ranks as the best specimen of a country house in this style as a whole, but the frontage of Park Hall, near Oswestry, will bear comparison with any façade of this class in England. Marsh or March, in the parish of Westbury, is a small black and white house, and has been excellently restored quite recently, and the same may be said of the Black Birches. Melverley Church, Halston Chapel, and Park Hall Chapel, are examples of the use of this style in ecclesiastical buildings. The stately but ruinous shell of Moreton Corbet is a fine Jacobean design of first-rate order. The house was burnt down before it was inhabited, and has never been rebuilt. I draw near to my conclusion, and return to the point from whence I began, that acquaintance with the local evidences of history makes us admit that there are fewer old things of man's contrivance in the world than some people think. Go into any house, and how little can you lay your hands upon which has been in that house for a hundred years. You may see, in any well-appointed mansion, books and furniture, and swords and armour, and lace and jewellery, and silver and pewter, linen and tapestry, and pictures, but how little, even though it be old, has been in the place for long; how little has been seen and handled by those who lived there centuries ago. There were few books, few pictures, few ornaments in a country house even in the eighteenth century. The old inventories testify to the simplicity, not to say ruggedness, of the lives of our ancestors. So when people bring treasures of art, and especially when they bring portraits to an old house, they should not be ashamed of labelling them, in order that old things

which have been purchased may not be mistaken for old things which were brought into the house when they were new, and have grown old in the same place. A mansion may be built in a year—a home cannot be made in a year or in a generation. When a man rebuilds his house by way of making a good job of it, instead of carefully repairing the existing habitation he destroys a homeliness which he will never see again. More harm has been done by too lavish reconstructions than by neglect. Shropshire has largely benefited in every generation from new comers, who have added to its material prosperity and pleasant associations.

"The fair new homes of England,
Homes of the strong and free,
Of a race that still for ever will
The new world's masters be."

I think that in this county the ancient and the modern fairly combine together and every day grow into closer harmony. Certainly people are not now so set upon pulling down in order that they may rebuild as they were in other days. There is greater reverence for the past, and a better reading of its story.

"The old-world homes of England,
What tales their walls can tell
Of hopes and fears in by-gone years
To those that read them well."

APPENDIX.

Eyton's List of Shropshire Castles.

Alberbury
Bishop's Castle
Bridgnorth
Carrechova
Caus
Cleobury Mortimer
Corfham
Ellesmere
Holgate
Kinnerley
Knockin
Ludlow
Middle
Norton
Oswestry
Pulverbatch
Quatford
Red Castle
Ruyton
Shrawardine
Shrewsbury
Snead
Stapelton
Stretton
Wem
Wattlesborough
Whitchurch
Whittington

Castellated Mansions.

Acton Burnell
Apley
Brace Meole
Charlton
Cheswardine
Dawley
Hopton
Longnor
Moreton Corbet
Stokesay
Tirley
Withyford
Wroxeter

RELIGIOUS HOUSES, with their value at the Dissolution, from Stevens's continuation of Dugdale's *Monasticon*.

	Gross. £	Net. £	
Shrewsbury Abbey	615	532	Benedictine
Wenlock Priory	434	401	Cluniac
Halesowen	337	280	Præmonstratensian
Haughmond	294	259	Augustine
Lilleshall	327	229	Augustine
Buildwas	129	110	Cistercian
Chirbury Priory	87	66	Augustine
Woombridge Priory	72	65	Augustine
Breewood	31	17	Cistercian.

To which may be added Alberbury, suppressed by Henry VI. as an alien Priory of the Grandimontensian order, and the House of the Knights of St. John at Halston.

The Abbots of Shrewsbury, Lilleshall, and Haughmond were summoned to the House of Peers from time to time.

TUDOR PEERAGE OF SHROPSHIRE IN HENRY VIII'S REIGN.

Stafford.	Duke of Buckingham.	Dukedom extinct in 1521. Barony of Stafford in 1637.
Fitzalan.	Earl of Arundel.	Extinct in male line 1580.
Grey Baron.	Grey de Powis.	Extinct 1552.
Earl of Shrewsbury.		

The Baronies of Talbot, Furnival, and Strange of Blackmere fell into abeyance between 3 daughters and coheirs in 1616, and but a small portion of the Shropshire estates remained attached to the Earldom afterwards.

The Earl of Derby might perhaps be added to the list as owner, through the Stranges, of Knockin and Middle.

PEERAGE OF SHROPSHIRE IN GEORGE I.'S REIGN.

Newport.	Earl of Bradford.	Extinct 1762.
Herbert.	Marquess of Powis.	Extinct 1748.
Pierpoint.	Duke of Kingston.	Extinct 1773.
Talbot.	Duke of Shrewsbury. Earldom reverted to kinsman.	Extinct 1718.

PEERAGE OF SHROPSHIRE IN VICTORIA'S REIGN.

Noel Hill of Attingham. Baron Berwick, created 1784.

Clive. Irish Barony of Clive, created 1762.
Baron Herbert, created 1794.
Earl of Powis, created 1804.

Bridgeman. Created Baron 1794, Earl of Bradford 1815.

Hill of Hawkstone. Created Baron 1816, Viscount 1842.

Forester. Created Baron 1821.

Wilson, Berners. Barony called out of abeyance 1832.

Lawley, Wenlock. Created Baron 1839

Clive, Windsor. Barony called out of abeyance 1855.

Hamilton Russell, Boyne. Baron Brancepeth created 1866.

Acton. Baron, created 1869.

Gore. Harlech Baron, created 1876.

Hill-Trevor. Baron, created 1880.

Corry, Rowton. Baron, created 1880.

The following peers have land in Shropshire, but are not resident, and are therefore not included in the foregoing list :—

Earl of Shrewsbury	Lord Barnard
Earl Craven	Earl Brownlow
Marquess of Bath	Duke of Sutherland
Earl of Tankerville	Lord Stafford

NAMES OF SHROPSHIRE LANDOWNERS MENTIONED IN LELANDS "ITINERARY," TEMP. HEN. VIII., with estimates in some cases of their incomes. Those

printed in italics are believed to be extinct in the male line or to have sold their Shropshire estates.

	£
Sir John Talbot of Albrighton Park	
Corbet of Morton Corbet, 800 merk of land =	520
Corbet of Lee, 100 *merk*	75
Corbet of Longnor	40
Sir Richard Mainwaring of Highfield (*Ightfield*)	
John Dodde of Cloverley, 100 merk	75
Sir Robert Nedham, 400 merk	260
Grosvenor of Bellaporte	
Newport of Archaul (*Ercall*) *a lordship with Park*	200
Leighton of Leighton	
Leighton of Wattlesborough	
Leighton of Plash	
Leighton of Rodimer (*Rodington*)	
Mitton of Cotton (*Coton near Shrewsbury*)	135
Trentham of Shrewsbury	50
Thornes of Shrewsbury	50
Oneslow of Oneslow	40
Oteley of Pitchford	100
Skriven of Frodesley, 100 merk of land	70
Lee of Longner (*Langley*)	100
Laken of Wyley	170
Gataker of Gataker 100 merk of land	65
Wolridge of Dudmistre (*Dudmaston*)	65
Haughton of Beckbyri	40
Young of Cainton, 100 merk	65
Vernon of Hodnet	140
Cotton of Cotton	50
Chorleton of Apley	
Chorlton of Wombridge	

Amongst the other names to be found in Leland's "Itinerary" are

Brooke a lawyer at Church Stretton
Ld. Powys (*i.e.*, *Grey de Powis*)
Duke of Buckingham of Caus Castle
Earl of Arundel
Earl of Derby as owner through the Lords Strange of Knockin
Sandford of Sandford
Dudley

From Eman. Bowen's map of Shropshire, dedicated to Henry Arthur Herbert, Earl of Powis, Lord Lieutenant of the county, and published in 1751. The italics represent failure of male descent or disposal of estate.

Seats of Nobility, etc.	Seats of Nobility, etc.
Tong Castle. Duke of Kingston	*Halston. Mytton Esq.*
Pepperhill. Earl of Shrewsbury	Morton Corbet. Corbet Esq.
Shefnal. Earl of Stafford	Borreatton. Hunt Esq.
High Arcol & Eyton. Earl of Brad-	*Morvil. Weaver Esq.*
Oakley Park. Earl of Powis [*ford*	Willey. Forester Esq.
Shenton Place. Lord Kilmorey	*Apley. Whitmore Esq.*
Halesowen. Lord Dudley	*Condover. Barnston Esq.*
Haughton. Briggs Bt.	*Porkington. Owen, Esq.*
Aldenham. Acton Bt.	*Park Hall. Charlton Esq.*
Hawkston. Hill Bt.	Aston. Lloyd Esq.
Longner. Corbet Bt. Montgomeryshire	*West Coppice & Onslow. Powis Esq.*
Harnage Grange. Fowler Bt.	*Chetwin. Pigott Esq.*
Wattlesborough. Leighton Bt.	Linley. More Esq.

Parks marked in Christopher Saxton's map, 16th century. They were probably not all deer parks.

Adderley	High Ercall	Oteley	Shrawardine
Blackmere	Hodnet	Plash	Staunton
Cardiston	Kenwick	Pepperhill	Tong
Cheswardyne	Langley	Shawbury	Upton
Cleobury	Lyleshall	Shavington	Wylley
Haughmond	Oakley	Shelvock	

to which Speed adds Dean, near Ludlow, Stokesay, Shifnall, Linley, near Bridgnorth, and Ighfield.

Eman. Bowen's Map, 1751, marks the following :—

Belserdyne	Haughmond	Oakley	Stokesay
Condover	Langley	Pepperhill	Tong
Cheswardyne	Linley, near Bridg-	Shrawardine	Weston (Stafford-
Ercall	north	Shawbury	shire)
Frodesley	Lilleshall	Shavington	Willey
Harnage Grange	Loton	Stanton	Upton Cresset

Present (1895) Deer Parks :—

Acton Burnell	Borreatton	Longner	Mawley
Apley	Chetwynd	Loton	Weston (Stafford-
Attingham	Hawkstone	Oteley	shire)

Disparked Parks :—

Condover	Frodesley	Langley	Walcot
Cound	Haughmond	Millichope	Whitton near Lud-
Eyton	Kinlet	Pitchford	low

Basil Wood's Map 1715. List of 200 Shropshire gentlemen, to which in the margin of the map their coats of arms are added. Those whose names are printed in italics have disappeared in the male line, or have sold their estates.

Astley, Bart.	Corbet	*Fox*	*Hayward*
Adams	*Corbet*	*Fleetwood*	*Jenks*
Adams	*Cole*	*Fowns*	Jones
Andrews	Clyve	Forester, Kt.	*Jones*
Acton, Bart.	*Cornwell*	*Gosnell*	*Jones*
Acton	Cotton	Gardner	Jenkin
. . . .	*Charleton, Bart.*	*Grosvenor*	*Jobber*
Earl of Bradford	Charleton	*Grant*	*Ireland*
Blount, Bart.	*Charleton*	*Hollings*	*Karver*
Briggs, Bart.	Coats	*Herbert*	*Kinaston*
Bridgeman, Bart.	*Clough*	*Harnadge*	*Kinaston*
Boycott	Chetwood, Bt.	*Harwood*	*Kinardsley*
Baldwin (now	*Church*	*Haynes*	*Llewellin*
Childe)	*Calcott*	Hunt	Lloyd
Baldwin	. . . .	*Harris*	*Littleton*
Baldwin	*Cressett*	*Harris*	*Littleton*
Bentall	*Cartwright*	Hanmer	*Langley*
Biggs	*Clayton*	*Hanmer*	*Lloyd, Bart.*
Berrington	*Davies*	Hill	Lloyd
Bird	*Donne*	Hill	*Langley*
Botcryle	*Delves, Bart.*	*Hopton*	*Langley*
Brown	Eyton	*Holland*	*Lacon*
Brown	Edwards	*Holland*	Leighton, Bart.
Burton	*Edwards*	*Haynes*	*Lister*
Corbet, Bart.	*Fowler, Bart.*	*Hibbins*	*Lea*
Corbet	*Finch*	*Hosier*	Lloyd

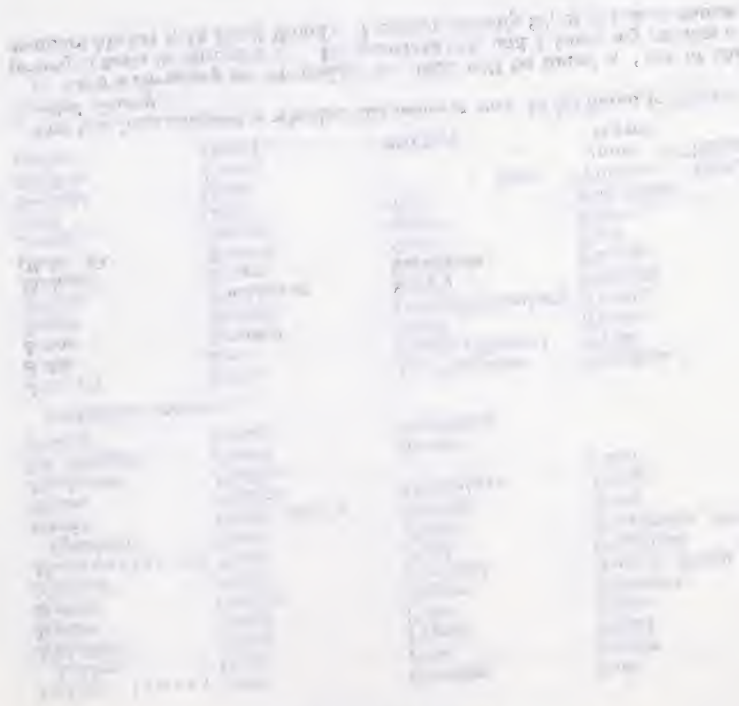
Lutler (query Lutley)	*Owen*	Plowden	*Scott*
	Owen	*Pope*	*Stanier*
Middleton	*Ottley*	Pygott	*Weald*
Mytton	*Ottley*	Price	*White*
Mytton	Oakley	*Prynce*	*Whitmore*
Minshull	*Parke*	*Presland*	*Wale* or *Waley*
Mainwaring (of Ightfield)	*Powis*	*Pugh*	Wingfield
	Powis	*Ridley*	*Wooldridge, Bart.*
Mostin	*Powis, Earl of*	*Scarlett*	*Ward*
Moore	*Phillips*	*Skrimshyre*	*Young*
Mackworth	*Phillips*	. . . .	*Yates*
Ld. Newport	*Powell*	Severn	
Newton	*Pulley*	*Shepheard*	

Additional names :—

Aron (?)	Jones	*Ld. Pierpoint*	Vaughan
Acton	*Lea*	*Bryges (Briggs)*	*Wylde*
Acton	*Langley*	*Revell*	*Weaver*
Baugh	Moseley	*Duke of Shrewsbury*	*Waring*
Brooks	*Muckleston*	*Slaney*	Wallcott
Botterell	Moore	*Smallman*	*Waring*
Child, Kt.	*Mirrick*	*Smith*	*Weld*
Bendy	*Newton*	*Spratt*	*Walker*
Jedd	*Owen*	*Soley*	*Wilbraham*
Griffiths	*Owen*	. . . . Bart.	Williams, Bart.,
Griffiths	*Prince*	. . . .	(now Williams
Gibbon	*Powell*	Taylure	Wynn)

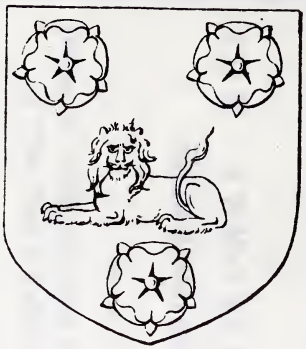
The test here adopted is whether the name is now to be found in Burke's *Landed Gentry*.

In Kelly's *Directory for Shropshire* for 1891 will be found a "list of the principal seats in Shropshire" He mentions 218, and I leave my readers to compare his list with Basil Wood's. I cannot identify 20, of the same names.



SHREWSBURY.

WENLOCK.



LUDLOW.

BRIDGNORTH.

OSWESTRY.

BISHOP'S CASTLE.

THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF SHROPSHIRE CORPORATIONS.

By A. C. FOX-DAVIES.

(Editor of "Fairbairn's Book of Crests" (Revised Edition), and anthor of "The Book of Public Arms" and "Armorial Famiiies."

We Salopians are proud of many things, some rightly, some wrongly. Among those of the latter kind are the "three golden leopards' faces in an azure field," so familiar within the confines of the county. They are lovingly and colloquially referred to as cats' heads and logger heads and tiger heads, in fact almost anything rather than by their proper name.

"Azure, three leopards' faces or," by an incorrect practice which seems to have often conferred on the county the arms of the county town, are frequently spoken of and by many considered to be as much the arms of Shropshire as of Shrewsbury. And labelled as the arms of Shropshire, they occupy the largest and the central shield upon the present seal of the Shropshire County Council. By the laws of arms, a coat of arms can only be borne by an individual or by a Corporate Body having the power to use a common seal. A county formerly was simply a geographical division, and there was no administrative body capable of petitioning for or obtaining a grant of armorial bearings. And in spite of the highly coloured sheets of county arms which are to be bought, no county in England possessed armorial bearings or the right to obtain them prior to the passing of the County Councils Act.

With towns, however, it has been different. There are six corporate towns in the county of Salop:—

Shrewsbury, Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Oswestry, Bishop's Castle, and Much Wenlock. The two first-named alone possess the right to bear arms. Both these towns exhibited arms at the Visitations of the Heralds and had them duly confirmed and allowed for all time to come. The other towns let the opportunity slip by them, and their only way of now obtaining the right is by petitioning for a grant of arms in the usual manner.

The arms of Shrewsbury are *Azure, three leopards' faces or.* Of the origin of the charges I confess I am uncertain. The arms of Ludlow are *Azure, a lion couchant guardant between three roses argent.* The origin here is not far to seek. Edward of York was Earl of March, and we get the white lion of March between the white roses of York as the arms of Ludlow, one of the most important towns within the marches.

The limit within which the right to use the corporate arms of a town exists is well expressed by the clause which always figures in a grant of this character. The arms are granted "to be borne and used for ever hereafter by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said Town of . . . . . and their successors in office in their corporate capacity on Shields, Banners, Seals, or otherwise according to the laws of Arms, without the let or interruption of any person or persons whatsoever." The older arms exist by the virtue of their usage, which was confirmed and legalised by their being recorded at the Heralds' Visitation, held by warrant from the Sovereign in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The visitations put an end to the assumption of arms by mere motion and such a practice has since been illegal. If no arms were allowed at the visitations a formal grant is now the only way in England of obtaining the privilege and right of bearing arms either in the case of individuals or corporate bodies.

Bridgnorth has no arms in spite of the fact that they are used and that arms are quoted for the town in Burke's *General Armory.* The two seals were recorded at the Visitations, but they were simply recorded as

seals and not as coats of arms. The legend upon the one is "Sigill communitatis de Bruges." The design upon this shews, issuing from battlements, an embattled gateway with a portcullis surmounted by three towers, the centre one taller than the others and tripled-towered. The foregoing was of course at that time the common seal of the borough, though the design upon the other seems to have found greater favour. This has the legend "Sigillum officij ballivor' libertatis ville de bruges." At the base is a mount (or perhaps it may represent waves of the Severn as in the common seal of Shrewsbury) and thereupon is an embattled gateway with portcullis, and rising from the battlements, a tower pyramidically domed. On the dexter side of the tower is an escutcheon of St. George, and on the sinister an escutcheon of France and England quarterly. This is nothing more than the device upon a seal and is not a coat of arms. But the design is generally placed upon a shield to do duty as the arms of Bridgnorth. The motto is "Fidelitas urbis salus Regi," which of course bears witness to the gallant stand made by the town for the king during the Civil Wars.

Burke in his *General Armory*, doubtless copying from Berry's *Encyclopædia Heraldica*, whilst giving a note saying that the seal (evidently referring to the former of the two) shews a castle only, quotes a coat of arms for the town, "Azure, a castle argent, a canton of the last." But no use is ever made of such a design, it is not recorded at the College of Arms, and has clearly originated in a mistake somewhere. A rather interesting note is added to the drawings of the seals in the Visitation Books—"These are the seales now used by towne of Bruges in the countie of Salop, aunciently so called, but of late times corruptly nominated Bruge-north or Brugge-north, when indeed that attribute of North ought to be Morfe, as standing upon the side of the forest of Morfe in the said countie."

In like manner, but equally without authority, the design upon the seal of Oswestry is frequently placed

upon an escutcheon and denominated a coat of arms. "Oswald's tree" is the derivation of the name of the town, and the design upon the seal bears witness thereto. It represents a figure of King Oswald, crowned and seated upon a throne, holding in his dexter hand a sword and his sinister grasping the branch of a tree, presumably that upon which he suffered. The funny point is that only half the background of the seal (that on the dexter side) is diapered and the nature of the tree would puzzle a botanist. The legend runs: —"Sigillum commune de Oswaldestre."

The seal of Bishop's Castle is comparatively insignificant. It has no legend. It represents a domed castle with the letters I. R. (Jacobus Rex) above, and the date 1609 below.

Wenlock is the last, and its old time style was "The franchise of Wenlok." The older and larger seal bears the legend, "Sigillum comune burgi de Wenlok." It is very ancient, and is still in existence and in use. The design is a triple canopy. In the centre is a saint seated, crowned with a nimbus, and supporting in his arms a crucifix. On the dexter side is a *crowned* figure, the right hand holding a book and the left a crosier: at his feet is an animal, possibly a dog. The sinister compartment shows the figure of St. George standing upon the dragon, but the engraver has made the saint left-handed, for he holds the shield upon his right arm, and his sword in his left hand resting upon his shoulder. At the base of the seal are three escutcheons, the centre bearing a lion rampant, the dexter a stag trippant, and the sinister a chevron between three blackamoors' heads. The last-named is, of course, the coat of Wenlok of Wenlok, an ancient family now extinct in the male line, but represented through marriage with an heiress by the Lawley family, now Barons Wenlock. The lion rampant may be the arms of Fitz Alan or de Montgomery, Earls of Arundel, and anciently feudal lords of the district, but I can hazard no suggestion as to the stag.

The smaller seal of Wenlock is a pun upon the name, the design being a fetter-lock, and the letters W. E. N.

In colours of blue and gold the fetter-lock is set up as the badge of the Corporation in the old Council Chamber at Much Wenlock, but elsewhere, as the "arms of the town," an escutcheon, charged with the three inescutcheons from the seal, can be seen. This is what does duty upon the County Council seal.

To the present County Council seal there are many objections. It contains seven escutcheons, and the scroll which winds around it bears the names they are supposed to do duty for.

The central escutcheon, the largest in size, bears the arms of Shrewsbury, labelled Shropshire, to which they do not belong, and never will. Of the other six, Shrewsbury and Ludlow are of course correct. Of the remainder, Oswestry, Bishop's Castle, and Bridgnorth show the designs of their seals placed upon escutcheons and dignified into the semblance of coat-armour, which they are far from being. Wenlock has gone still further afield, for a coat of arms as quoted above has been invented for it. It is of no authority, and has not even the excuse to offer that it is the design upon the seal. Thus of the seven escutcheons, five are illegal, violating the laws of arms and the law of the land.

By crowding these seven escutcheons upon the limited field of the seal, the detail becomes minute and almost indecipherable. This is a fault a seal should avoid. The appearance of the seven shields would indicate that it was the intention to signify simply an associated body of the six corporations. But these corporations still exist as corporate bodies. The County Council is another body, representing the entire county.

But the most glaring error lies in the use and assumption by the county of the arms of Shrewsbury.

The County Council is a corporate body, and

capable of legally bearing arms, and upon its seal it should be typified by *one* shield showing a legal coat of arms *for* the county.

The proper and the legal way to obtain such arms is by petitioning for a grant of arms in the formal and usual manner. Such a grant could be obtained in which the leopard faces, so familiar to us, would be retained, but with the addition of some heraldic ordinary, which would constitute the design a separate coat of arms from the time-honoured insignia which belongs, and must always so belong, to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Shrewsbury for the time being.

THE MERCHANTS' GILD OF SHREWSBURY. THE TWO EARLIEST ROLLS.

Transcribed by the Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

Some five or six years ago I undertook the transcription of six very early rolls of the Merchants' Gild, which were then thought to be the earliest documents extant. (See vol. ii., 2nd s., p. 29, &c.) The careful collation and examination of the whole of the archives, which has since been made by the Record Committee appointed by the Corporation, have brought to light some still earlier in point of date, and consequently more interesting; in fact, the very documents which the Historians of Shrewsbury had examined, and to which they refer in their first volume (p. 102). The earliest of these now submitted bears date the 11th year of King John (A.D. 1209-10), and the other is of the 4th year of his son Henry (A.D. 1219-20). They are so well described by Owen and Blakeway that it would be presumptuous for me to add anything to what they have said. The following is their account :—

> The (Merchants') Gild existed antecedent to the Charter of 1227, and the proof of this assertion is found in a set of parchment rolls preserved among the archives of the Corporation. They are nine in number, all sewed together, and are the earliest extant in those archives. . . . The first begins thus—(here follows the Latin heading, and after it this translation) : The names of those who are in Gild Merchant in the burgh of Salop, and whose fathers were not before in the liberties of the Gild in the 11th year of King John and whose fine is 5s. 4d. Then follow thirty names, after each of whom is set viii^{d} and sometimes viij^{d} primo, importing either that they paid so much of their fine, or rather, perhaps, that 8d. was their first contribution to the burdens of the town.

They who first entered the Gild: Nine names. Hence it may be inferred that the gild had a previous existence, that the former thirty were previous members of it, and that these nine became so for the first time in the 11th year.

Of foreigners who entered the gild and of their fine: Fifty-six names. The fines paid by these foreigners vary: half a mark, eight shillings, ten shillings, and they are set down in the following manner.

There is no need to copy the two instances, as they will be found hereafter.

These entered at the last assize or session for the first time: Fifty-nine names. These appear to have been foreigners (i.e., non-residents) who now first became members of the gild, so that we may suppose the former fifty-six had been so before. The fines of both these classes are about the same, but very few payments are specified from the last. On this roll are endorsed upwards of three hundred other names, apparently in continuation of the list on the front of it.

Second Roll.—Memorandum of a gild merchant of the burgh of Salop at the fourth session in the 11th year of King John, on the feast of St. Bartholomew. Of those whose fathers were in the gild on whom an assessment of 22d. (32d.) is set. . . . This second roll is endorsed: Memorandum of the last who entered the assessment of the gild for the first time in the 4th year of Henry III. Three hundred and fifty names: Of families who afterwards made a figure in the town or left their names to its streets, &c.

Yet, notwithstanding the general accuracy of the historians, some slight discrepancies will be observed between my renderings of the headings and what they have given, especially in their numeration, owing possibly to the extreme care I have taken to ensure verbal and literal accuracy. Every doubtful or obscure word has been scrutinized, not once only, but many times, and every word to which any the least suspicion could attach is now given in italics. In some places the ink has faded, and in others the parchment has suffered from either fire or some corrosive fluid. These places are left blank, the lines being indicated by dots, so that the number of missing names may still be calculated.

The description which Dr. Cunningham (*Growth of English Industry and Commerce*, University of Cambridge Press, 1890, p. 206, ff.) has given throws much light upon the objects for which these Merchant Gilds were formed. He says—

> The object of these associations appears to have been the regulation of trade. Free tenants of all sorts had indeed the right to buy and sell victuals in all English towns without paying toll, but the members of the gild obtained a similar freedom in regard to goods of every kind, and as they paid for the privilege they were careful to secure it for themselves exclusively . . . none but members were to buy and sell, or, at any rate, the gild had such supervision over all buying and selling that those who infringed their privileges were liable to be fined by the gild. But while their privileges were thus exclusive, they were also inclusive; the members of the gild had a right to claim to have a part with another member in a successful bargain. If he fell into poverty he might count on their aid, and if he was imprisoned, or even unjustly accused, they would assist him. Through membership in a gild merchant the trader obtained a status which was recognised outside the limits of his own town; and each body of burgesses sought to obtain a "most favoured gild" clause, and to have its members put on the same footing for purposes of trade as those who carried on business to the most advantage. . . . These gilds had their own laws, and Courts in which civil causes might be determined; but it appears that mercantile business was more usually transacted in the ordinary burgh courts in which questions connected with the terms of payment and the recovery of debts could usually be settled.

Dr. Cunningham goes on to speak of the gilds increasing in power and so gradually overshadowing the burgh authorities, of their various privileges, of the filial relations between various towns, and of their growing importance, but as his remarks, fortified as they are by reference to documents and authorities, are somewhat lengthy, it may be sufficient to refer our readers to his most interesting and learned history for other details, which throw much light upon our own early Gild history and municipal commerce.

A few notes have been appended, and tables of Christian and Surnames, together with a list of places and trades, will be found at the close of the paper. The Historians of Shrewsbury have noticed that in the fifth roll, and in some of the earlier ones, a few female names occur. Unfortunately, in the two documents now submitted, the female names are only found in the damaged or faded portions, and we cannot ascertain what proportion they bore to the whole number. That these females were trading on their own account, and were persons of some consideration, is quite evident. The husband (vir) of one lady and her servant (homo) are only known by their subordination to her authority. These peculiarities will be more manifest in the lists, but they afford to the advocates of female emancipation precedents of a certain value. Much that was said in the latter part of my previous paper will be found applicable to this, and so no repetition is needed. It is very gratifying to find that a few of the early surnames have survived to our own times; that others have perished ought to be no matter of surprise when we consider the lapse of time between King John's day and our own, at least six centuries and three-quarters. The proportion of patronymics strictly so called, and surnames, will be a very interesting study. It was towards the end of the age of transition that these lists were made. Baptismal names were becoming surnames, and designations arising from localities or occupations fast hardening into names of families which eventually made a mark in the after history of our ancient town and county.

THE MERCHANTS' GILD OF SALOP.

THE TWO EARLIEST ROLLS OF MEMBERS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE CORPORATION, A.D. 1209–10, AND A.D. 1219–20.

(*1st Membrane*) § Sā Sp̄c Ass'it noƀ.

§ D. ilł qui sūt In Gilda M'cand in burg̃ Salop' et quoꝝ pat'es pri' nō fuer̄t ī liƀtatib' Gilde Anno .xj°. Regni Reg' I. et quoꝝ finis est ,v. soł .iiij. đ.

§ Ric̄ fił Aluređ de Chotes .viij. đ
Joh̄es fr̄ ei' .viij. đ. p'mo.
Thomas Hoo (*or* Hot) .viij. đ
Roƀ fił Walt̄ malier .viij. đ. p'mo
Wiłł Serich̄ .viij. đ. p'mo
Wiłł de Cholehā .viij. đ
Rog̃ Tece .viij. đ
Elias m'cer' .viij. đ
Waṙ fił Swain' .viij. đ
Roƀ fił Jermāi mōach̄ .viij. đ. p'mo
Hamd' Blūd' .viij. đ. p'mo
Ric̄ ferthīg .viij. đ
Walt̄ fił Peel .viij. đ
Clemēs pellip' .viij. đ. p'mo
Rog̃ fr' ei' .viij. đ. p'mo
Wiłł Satherei .viij. đ
Rog̃ fił Walt̄ malier .viij. đ
Joh̄es piscator .viij. đ
Joh̄es Suilarđ .viij. đ
Thurstan' Suilarđ .viij. đ
Ric̄ fił Rimild .viij. đ
Rog̃ m'cer' fił Ade .viij. đ

§§ D. ilł q^i p'mo int^aueṙt Gildā
§ Jorđ Whitemō
Thom̃ fił Helote
Joh̄ fił Jacobi
Walt̄ fił Sāsoñ
Roƀt' blūd' carnifex
Jorđ kech̄
Galfr' fił Roƀ pisc'
Hug̃ fił *mayđce*
Jordn' fił Roƀ pisc'

Gilb̄ fit̄ Wimūd .viij. đ
Regiñ blauet (*or* blanet) .viij. đ
Haᵐ̃ Lorim̃ .viij. đ.
Joh̄ de Bruo'ne .viij. đ
Ric̄ mineator .viij. đ
Adā fit̄ Driw .viij. đ
Rannulf' clubbe .viij. đ
Gilb' Būgi .viij. đ
Rob̄t' Leffi .viij. đ

§ D. forisecis qui intªuer̄t Gildā et de fin' eoȝ.

Illi intªuer̄t ad vltimā Assisā p'mo.

§ Philipp' m'cer' Dimid m̃ª Iñ pac' .ij. sol̄
Adā Want' Dim̃ m̃ª Iñ pac' .xx. deñ.
Walt̄ de Clunª .x. sol̄ Iñ pac' .ij. sol̄
Henric' qⁱ fuit Serviēs hug̃ de Wila Dim̃ mª. Iñ pac' .xx. deñ
Ric̄ minur Dim̃ mª Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Luarch' Walēsis. Dim̃ mª Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Joh̄es pistor .viij. sol̄ Iñ pac' .ij. sol̄
Wal̄a fit̄ Thome .viij. sol̄ Iñ pac' .ij. sol̄
Rob̄t' Joye Dim̃ mª Iñ pac' .xx. deñ
Wiłłm de Clunª .xx. sol̄ Iñ pac' .ij. sol̄
Walter' de brainesford .j. mª Iñ pac' .xl. deñ
Philipp' Serich' .viij. sol̄. Iñ pac' .ij. sol̄
Rad̄ de Wigorn' .j. mª Iñ pac' .xl. đ
Siward' de Newnhā Dim̃ mª Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Petr' pistor Dim̃ mª. Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Simund' fit̄ Ade de Lōgedō Dim̃ mª Iñ pac' .viij. deñ
Hug̃ b'oliot (*or* foliot) Dim̃ mª Iñ pac' .xij. deñ

§§ Adā pistor de Sc̃a Julianª Dim̃ mª dabit .ij. s̄
§ Adā fit̄ thome Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Ric̄ fit̄ thōe extªnei Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Rob̄ de Broy Dim̃ mª .xij. đ dabit
§ Thom̃ de Bicedō Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Lefwig' mineator Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ pacau
§ Joh̄es marscall' Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Wal̄ de Bicedō Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Ric̄ de Westburi Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ B'nard de h'ef' .x. sol̄ dabit .ij. sol̄
§ Ernulf' de Actonª Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Driw Carnifex Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Ric̄ carpent̄ .x. s̄ dabit .ij. s̄
§ Ric̄ Scissor Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Ric̄ vir Golde .x. s̄ dabit .ij. s̄
§ Polle Bide Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Ric̄ de Dªttonª Dim̃ mª dabit .ij. s̄
§ Rob le tawere Dim̃ mª dabit .xij. đ
§ Ranulf' Aurif' Dim̃ mª dabit .xiⁱ. đ

Roƀt mōach' Diñ m^{a} Iñ deb3 .ij. soł .vj. đ
. . . . denal Diñ m^{a} Iñ deb3 .ij. soł .vj. đ
. . . de pariš Diñ m^{a} Iñ deb3 .ij. soł .vj. đ
. . Biced . . Diñ . . . Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Petr' . . . . Iñ pac' .vij. deñ
. . . . Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xx. deñ p'mo
. . . . Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
. . Acton^{a} .viij. soł Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Hañ ca'nfex uiłł Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Nicł cognat' andr' Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Joseph' turneator Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Walt cū pannis Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Roğ de Wig' Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Walt m'cer' int pōtes Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Huğ de p'sor' Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Roğ *bō* et *mal* Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Roğ carnifex Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. deñ
Roğ bacū Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Simiūd' bacū Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Philipp' bailard .viij. soł Iñ pac' .ij. soł
Riċ m'cer Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Riċ pede Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Petr' waggere Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Riċ g'cer' Diñ m^{a} Iñ pac' .xij. đ
Wiłł le turn' .x. soł pac' .xij. đ
Adā Scissor Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
Adā m'cer de foriet Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
Giłƀ cin'ard (*or* eu'ard) Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
Waſ vlniğ Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
Wiłł m'cer Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
Roƀ gangelard Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ

§ Wali Cruselage Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Bald Eliot Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Wiłł niğ m'cer' Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Hoel' furn' Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Alan' Loiboi Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Joł de Glowc' Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Henric' citaredor ad citarizand
§ Bradoc Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ War' furñ Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Swain' pistor Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Robt' furn' Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Riċ clic' de pichfor Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Riċ Vinēt .x. š dabit .ij. š
§ Wiłł de Cantelop' Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Wiłł fił Roƀ molēdiñ Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Riċ halb'g Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Roğ lorim' Diñ m^{a} dabit .xij. đ
§ Thoñ m'cer' Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Adā de hadenał Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Joł pistor sub Wila Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Wiłł serrator Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Roğ carpent' Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Riċ cruche .viij. š pac' .iij. š
§ Hēric' de he'f' .xx. š pac' .v. š p'mo
§ Joñes Barū Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ p'mo
§ Riċ nig' carpenť Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Matilda de P'stcot^{a} Diñ m^{a} pac' .xij. đ
§ Roƀ fił Roğ B'ose .v. š .iiij. đ pac' .viij. đ
§ Edda ux *Aberti* v. š .iiij. đ pac' .viij. đ
§ Clemēs piscator Diñ m^{a} dedit .xx. đ
§ Ida filia Aldred .xxij. đ pac' .iiij. đ p'mo

Huḡ turneator Diñ mª pac' .xij. đ
Riĉ winepeni .x. soł. pac' .xij. đ
Aleẍ pictor Diñ mª pac' .xij. đ
Walt̃ de St'ettonª Diñ mª pac' usq, ad .xv. deñ
Wiłł pistor Diñ mª pac' .xij. đ
Petr' rossell
Riĉ de Akes
Roƀt m'cer' Diñ mª pac' .xij. đ
Adā m'cer' de foriet Diñ mª pac' .xij. đ

§§ Roḡ le m'cer' *eis* Diñ mª pac' .xij. đ p'mo
Adā fił . . .v. s̄ .iiij. đ pac' .viij. đ
Julia . . tor . . . . pac' .iiij. đ
Agnes uẍ Wiłłi Aqª*solis* . . pac' .iiij. đ
Waṝ . . *iru* . . .v. soł
Petr . . . . .xxij. đ
Roḡ Kech . . .v. s̄ .xxij. đ
Siward' . . tor . . Diñ mª pac'
. . đ . . bla

(*In dorso*)

§§ D. fiñ.

Wiłł fił Jeruas .iiij. đ
Riĉ fił b'n' .iiij. đ
Hēric' de Acto' .xij. đ
Nichoł de Chotes .iiij. đ
Wiłł punch .iiij. đ
Riĉ de Westburi' .xij. đ
Roƀ hag'was .iiij. đ
Godfr̃ fił Riĉ .iiij. đ
Riĉ fił h'b'ti pellip .iiij. đ
Huḡ scissor de Chotes .iiij. đ
Waṝ clecħ .iiij. đ
Wiłł Ketto .iiij. đ
Riĉ fił Galfr̃ .iiij. đ
Hēric' Kēt .iiij. đ
Wiłł fił b'n' .iiij. đ
Nicħ agat .iiij. đ
Wilcin' sprūgā .iiij. đ
Pain .iiij. đ
Roḡ bidi .iiij. đ

§ Rein' fił Rađ .iiij. đ
Laur̃ fridei .iiij. đ
H'b't' m'cer .xij. đ
Philipp' fairwī .iiij. đ
Gilƀ Juñ .iiij. đ
Roƀ blūd' carn' .viij. đ
Huḡ fił būg m'cer .iiij. đ
Gilƀ seruiens Riĉ' Villā .iiij. đ
Nicħ fił brū de Soltō .iiij. đ
Wiłł fił Gilƀ .iiij. đ
Roḡ p'de .iiij. đ
Adā Kēpe .iiij. đ
.th. menereł .iiij. đ
Roḡ oulā .iiij. đ
Riĉ fairwī .iiij. đ
Joħ fibel .iiij. đ
Hamo Loriñ .iiij. đ
Stepħ fił Aleẍ .iiij. đ
Riĉ de Dªttō .ij. s̄

§ Roƀ Wisca'd' .iiij. đ
Alan' Wiłđ .iij. đ
Wiłł pist' .xij. đ
Bald eliot .xij. đ
Wiłł bulcheñ .iiij. đ
Joħ lād .iiij. đ
Alan' fił Aleẍ .iiij. đ
Wiłł barul .iiij. đ
Joħ aurif' .iiij. đ
Rāñ aurif' .iiij. đ
Rein' fił abeł' .iiij. đ
Wiłł mac' .iiij. đ
Roḡ coch .iiij. đ
Roƀ borei .iiij. đ
Huḡ fił Ine .iiij. đ
Swei pist' .xij. đ
Wiłł fił Ine .iiij. đ
Walt' pist .xij. đ
Roḡ wāt' .iiij. đ
Adā *cajeł* .iiij. đ

Adā Joye .iiij. đ
Thādi .iiij. đ
Wiłł tªnur
Galf' pisc' fił Roƀ .iiij. đ
Philipp' fił Jorđ .iiij. đ
Huḡ fił haṁ .iiij. đ
Rein' Lorim' .iij. đ
Joħ fił huḡ .iiij. đ
Hēric' vigił .iiij. đ
Petr' villā .iiij. đ
Adā de foriet .xij. đ
Walt̃ de bªnef' .xl. đ
Wiłł serrator .xij. đ
.th. fił helot .viij. đ
Riĉ fił Roḡ brū .iiij. đ
Siward dodi .iiij. đ
Wiłł fił Walt̃ .iiij. đ
.th. fił huḡ .iiij. đ
Andr̃ tīctor .iiij. đ
Adā m'cer .viij. đ de Cardon

Wilcī bidi .iiij. đ
Riĉ halbg' .xij. đ
Joh fit Alex̃ .iiij. đ
Huḡ colle .iiij. đ
Riĉ pede .xij. đ
Riĉ calpi .iiij. đ
Adā Wideryard .iiij. đ
Waſ Vlniḡ .xij. đ
Waſ fit Walt̃ fit *adon*.iiij. đ
Waſ cruch .iiij. đ
Joh fit Joh fit marti̇̃ .iiij. đ
Rein' ruff' .iiij. đ
Wiłt fit pet^{i} .iiij. đ
Alan' fit Ine .iiij. đ
Wiłt fit turstan' .iiij. đ
Joh piscator .iiij. đ
Wiłt fit Lemrich .iiij. đ
Jord blank .iiij. đ
Petr' bil .iiij. đ
Roƀ *Lumtor'* .iiij. đ
Huḡ fit Wiłt brū .iiij. đ
Adā fit Edwī .iiij. đ
Thom̃ de bicedō .iiij. đ
Riĉ scissor forīsec' .xij. đ
Alured' Wāter' .vj. đ
Nich fit Umfrī .iiij. đ
Roḡ R^{a}ssel .iiij. đ
Riĉ Sitte .iiij. đ
Adā fit Wiłt malđ .iiij. đ
Cradoc .xij. đ
Roƀ Leffi .iiij. đ

Sim̃ de lōgedō .viij. đ
Nich fit pet^{i} .iiij. đ
Waſ de b'edō .iiij. đ
Joh de Glowc' .xij. đ
Wilcin nope .iiij. đ
Sim̃ hilat .iiij. đ
Hēric bibbe .iiij. đ
Roḡ pīctor .iiij. đ
Wiłt fit Nich .iiij. đ *fit* huḡ
Waſ fit Waſ .iiij. đ .iiij. đ
Walt̃ *deunaw* .iiij. đ
Alan' Lētē .iiij. đ
Lucas fit Walt̃ .iiij. đ
Roḡ fr̃ ei' .iij. đ
Wilcin'fit Wiłt r^{a}ssel.iiij. đ
Roƀ de Broy .vj. đ
Wiłt hope .iiij. đ
Roƀ Joye .xx. đ
Roƀ bunet̃ .iiij. đ
Roḡ bibbe .iiij. đ
Wiłt Lunet .iiij. đ
hildeb'ād .iiij. đ
Walt̃ Lunet .iiij. đ
Roḡ faƀ .iiij. đ
Riĉ de Akes .xij. đ
Roḡ fit Alex̃ .iiij. đ
Riĉ fit Rein' .iiij. đ
Hēmīg fit Waſ .iiij. đ
Galfr' fit Edd' .iiij. đ
Wiłt cass *eic* .iiij. đ
Roƀ scissor .iiij. đ

Huḡ fit maiot̃ .viij. đ
Roḡ hadeb^{a} .iiij. đ
Roƀ pisc' .iiij. đ
Jord *saoeli* .iiij. đ
Walt̃ fairwi .iiij. đ
Waſ furō .xij. đ
Wiłt fit Jeruās .iiij. đ
Roƀ fit martī .iiij. đ
Roḡ fit pain .iiij. đ
Huḡ pist' .xij. đ
Roḡ ruff' .iiij. đ
Waſ agat .iiij. đ
Riĉ Vinet' .ij. s̄
Roḡ fit edwī .iij. đ

Alan' beñe .iiij. đ
Wiłt fit Waſ .iiij. đ
Martī Kēpe .iiij. đ
Adā fit Driw .iiij. đ
Joh pilche .iiij. đ
Adā pistor .xij. đ Sen'
Andr̃ tupet .iiij. đ
Hēric' de brustoll .iiij. đ
Reiñ fit Reiñ ruff .iij. đ
Riĉ cl'ic' .iiij. đ
Th. coch .iiij. đ
Andegī .iiij. đ
.th. infans .iiij. đ
Nich scissor .iiij. đ
b'nard' m'cer. ij. s̄
Roƀ viĉ .iiij. đ

Joh villā .iiij. đ
Alañ' fit Jord .iiij. đ
Wiłt fit ei' .iiij. đ
Philipp' fit huḡ foce .iiij. đ
Wiłt furn' .xij. đ
Huḡ de ꝑsoner' .vj. đ
Clemēs fit pet^{i} .iiij. đ
Hēric' scet .iiij. đ
Giłƀ būgi .iiij. đ
Hēric' fit Ine .iiij. đ
Wilcin' fit Wiłt ple .iiij. đ
Walt̃ tipet .iiij. đ
Jacob' fit martī .iiij. đ
Clemēs fit euerard .iiij. đ

Galf' kec .iiij. đ
Riĉ Brucche .iij. s̄
Wiłt fit sac' .iiij. đ
h . . . Bidi .iiij. đ
Petr' pist' .xij. đ
Roƀ de Westbir̃ .vj. đ *car'*
Hēric' borey .iiij. đ
Roƀ gāgelard .xij. đ
Riĉ fit Riĉ Rim' .iiij. đ
Sim̃ bacū .xij. đ
Roḡ bacū .iiij. đ
Thom̃ hoc .viij. đ
Joh Brucer̃y .viij. đ
Joh fit Roƀti fillot .iiij. đ
p'mo
Hoel' furn' .xij. đ

Gilƀ b'sebā .iiij. đ
Philipp' fit ei' .iiij. đ
Gilƀ fit Wym̃ .viij. đ
Gilƀ menerel .iiij. đ
Witt deubel .iiij. đ
Jacob' fit Jord .iiij. đ
Witt fit *e*'dan .iiij. đ
Roƀ fit Gilƀ Wim .iiij. đ
Petr' coch .iiij. đ
Thurst' Suilard .iiij. đ
Ric̃ scissor fit R*ic* .iiij. đ
Joh de Chotes .viij. đ
Witt fit Reiñ' ruffā .iiij. đ
Steph fit Ric̃ .iiij. đ
Thurst̃ .iiij. đ
bert^{a}m .iiij. đ
Ric̃ fit thurstā .iiij. đ
Thom̃ fit pet' .iiij. đ
Thom̃ m'cer' .iiij. đ
Ric̃ pouc' .iiij. đ
Alan' fit Witt R^{a}ssel .iiij. đ
Philipp' clech .iiij. đ
Brū fit Ric̃ .iiij. đ
Witt fit Waf̃ .iiij. đ
Witt cutt̃ .iiij. đ
Rog̃ Lolim .xij. đ
Alan' Sitte .iiij. đ
Nich fit Andr .iiij. đ
Witt m'cer .xij. đ
Waf̃ . . . . .iiij. đ
. . . . .xij. đ alan

Witt putoc .iiij. đ
Witt vic̃ .iiij. đ
Witt cochet .iiij. đ
ħƀt fit Godfr' .iiij. đ
Jord fit Roƀ pisc' .viij. đ
Waf̃ fit Swāi .viij. đ
.th. echeaetor .iiij. đ
Driw .xij. đ
Ric̃ carpent' .xij. đ
Ric̃ fit Andr̃ .iiij. đ
Joh fit Jacoƀ .iiij. đ
Witt de *Wing̃* pist' .xij. đ
Reiñ m'cer .iiij. đ
Witt ade sac' .iij. đ
Bert^{a}ms saceli .iiij. đ
Hamo f'rator .iiij. đ
Nich colle .iiij. đ
Witt Sucherei .iiij. đ
Joh turn^{ar} .iiij. đ
Walt̃ Sāsō .iiij. đ
th. fit Witti .iiij. đ
Hug̃ de parus' .xij. đ
Witt blūd' .iiij. đ
Witt oulā .iiij. đ
Ric̃ bulle .iiij. đ
Witt ple .iiij. đ
Witt fit Hug̃ cach .iiij. đ
Jord fit Galfr̃ .viij. đ
Joh pistor sub Wila .xij. đ
Rog̃ Vliñg .iiij. đ
Petr' fit Witt .iiij. đ

Walt̃ brū .iiij. đ
Witt pisc' .iiij. đ
Petr' fit hēmig .iij. đ
Alan' fit ħƀti .iiij. đ
Ric̃ de Actō .iiij. đ
Walt̃ cū pañis
Witt fit Al*añ* .iij. đ
Witt lōg' .iiij. đ
Joh marscall' .xij. đ
Adā Wāt̃ .xij. đ
Alan' fit Siward .iij. đ
Adā de badeñ .xij. đ
Jord Kech .viij. đ
th. borey .iiij. đ
Rog̃ fit alex̃ .iiij. đ
Ric̃ vir golde
Witt Sībel .iiij. đ
Roƀ pic'tor .iiij. đ
Witt m'cer .xij. đ
Witt cox .iiij. đ
Erñ de Actō .xij. đ
Roƀ furñ .xij. đ
Hēric' Wildēg iun .iij. đ
Witt balle .iiij. đ
Witt fit hēri' .iiij. đ
Ric̃ ferdħīg .iiij. đ
Rog̃ fit Waf̃ .iiij. đ
Joh hag'was .iij. đ
Joh fit Alde*i* .iiij. đ
Adā pist' .ij. s̄ .iiij. đ
Laur' cox .iiij. đ

Ric̃ fit Reiñ scissoris .iiij. đ
Joh de Bruōne .viij. đ
Lefwig min' .xij. đ
Hēric' palm̃ .iiij. đ
Petr' fit pet^{i} martī .iiij. đ
Rad de Wig' .xl. đ
Rog̃ carpent̃ .vj. đ
Philipp' bailard .xij. đ
Petr' Waggef̃ .vj. đ
Sim̃ fit thurstañ .iiij. đ
Rog̃ p*ent* .iiij. đ
Thom̃ fit Witt Wim' .iij. đ
Walt̃ fit Derem
Ida filia yohan .viij. đ
Nichol fit Ine .iii.
Ric̃ p'de .ij. đ

Witt . . . . . .
Witt . . . . . .
Joh fit Ine po . . .
Ric̃ fit Ric̃ Vill. . .
Rog̃ fr̃ ei' . . . .iiij. đ
Alan' fit Roƀ de Seltō
Alan' fit Leurich .iiij. đ

Illi p'mo
§ Alicia filia Roƀ cal . .
.iiij. đ p'mo
Tibba filia pet^{i} . . .
.iiij. đ

. . . . . .
. . . . . .

Ric̃ iuñ de yort .iiij. d̄
Petr' fit̄ brunig .iiij. d̄
Joh̄ fit̄ Wilt̄ .iiij. d̄
. . . de hib'ª .iiij. d̄
Rog̃ Saceli .iiij. d̄
Hoet fit̄ Joh̄ .iiij. d̄

Petr' brech̄ forensecis .xij. d̄
Adā fit̄ Wilt̄ Lib . .xij. d̄
Rog̃ *fit̄* . . . . . .
Philipp' bailard .vj. d̄ . . . . . .

(*Very modern endorsement*)

Rolls of burgesses from 11 John 1209 to 52 Hen. III. 1268.

Walt cū pañis .iiij. d̄
Rog̃ brito .iiij. d̄
Wilt̄ bil . . ȳ .iiij. d̄
Wilt̄ Selo .iiij. d̄
Herb̄ coif' .iiij. d̄
Ric̃ fit̄ Osb' .iiij. d̄
Joh̄ Brucefy
Petr' scissor .iiij. d̄
Joseph' .iij. d̄
Rob̄ fit̄ Edwiñ .iiij. d̄
Philipp' ascoe .iiij. d̄
Rob̄ tawere .xij. d̄
Rog̃ fit̄ m . . .iiij. d̄
. . . . . .

Ric̃ Anglic' .iiij. d̄ p'mo
Rob̄ fit̄ petⁱ fit̄ Joh̄is
.iiij. d̄ p'mo
§ Thom̃ pistor .v. s̄
.iiij. d̄ et deđ .viij. d̄
Henric̃ de He'f' . . .
pac' .v. s̄ Die Sc̃i Laur'
p'c Gildā
§ Isabela ux̄ elie
pac' .viij. d̄
Joh̄ fr' ei' .
Hug̃ fit̄ Wilti . . .
. . . . . .

(*In a more ancient hand*)

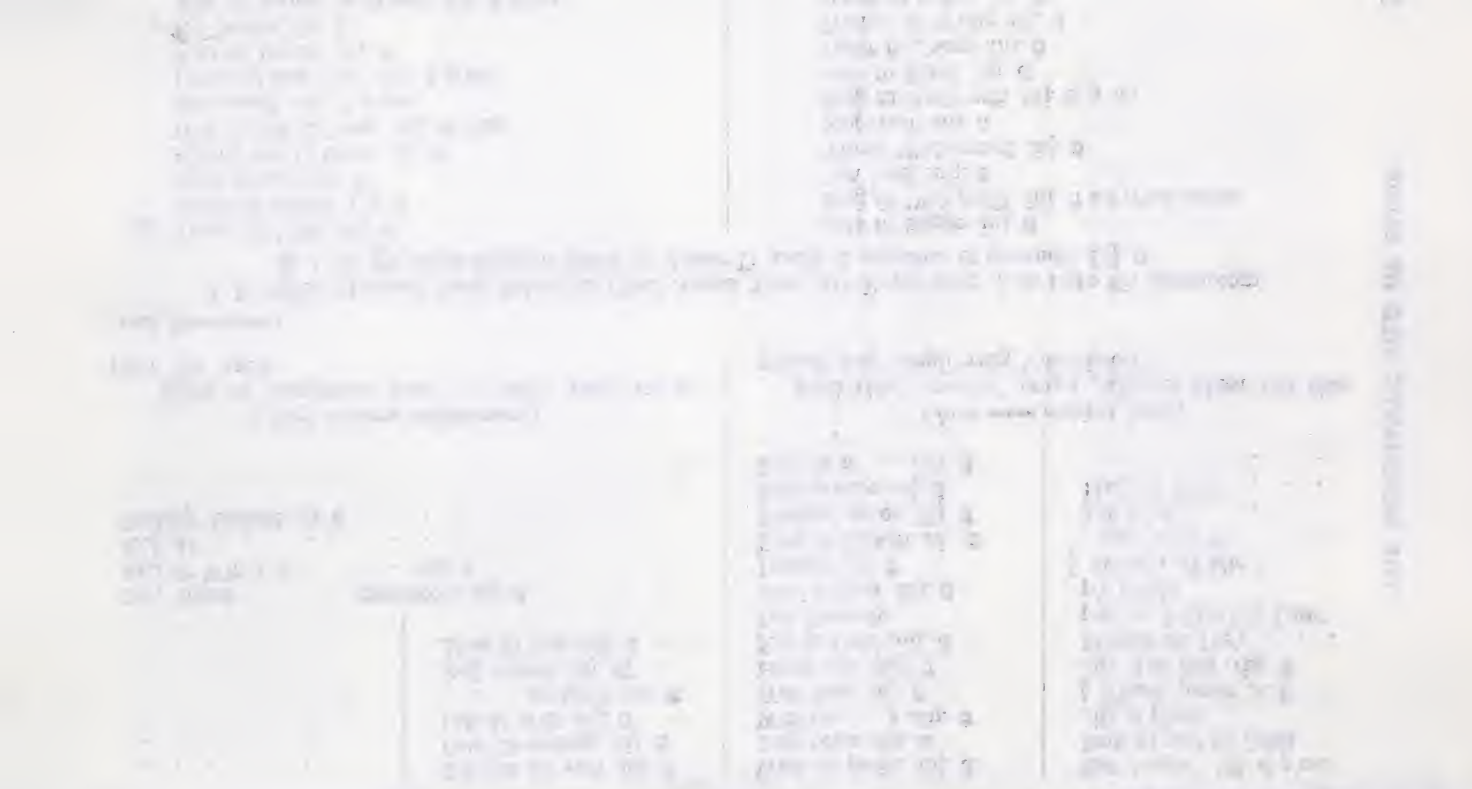
Rotł Gildʒ mercat' tempe Joh̄is et Henr' filii eius quond' Reg' Angli' vidʒ Ville Salop'

(*2nd Membrane*)

§ D. Gilda Mercanđ burgi Salop' ad Qªrtā Assisā Anno .xj.º Regni Regˢ J. in festo Sc̃i Bartholom'
§§ D ill qºr pat'es fuer̄t in Gilda vñ Assisª D .xxxij. đ. appoitaª et pacaueŕt .iiij. đ.

§§ Warin' fit̄ Wilti .iiij. d̄
Gilb̄t' fit̄ b'nard̄ .iiij. d̄
Willi Rªssel .iiij. d̄
Ric̃ fit̄ Ric̃ fit̄ b'ner .iiij. d̄
Wilt̄ fit̄ Ric̃ fit̄ b'ner .iiij. d̄ p'mo
Ric̃ quech̄ .iiij. d̄ p'mo
Johes fit̄ hug̃ t'ece .iiij. d̄ p'mo
Wilt̄ fit̄ Jeruaš .iiij. d̄
Ric̃ p'ride .iiij. d̄
Wilt̄ fit̄ Jeruas de Sotepł .iiij. d̄ p'mo

Adā fit̄ bogge .iiij. d̄
Rog̃ fit̄ Wař palm̃ .iiij. d̄ ad p'mā assisā
Joh̄ Ladi .iiij. d̄
Thom̃ Witheryard̄ .iiij. d̄
Rog' ruff' .iiij. d̄
Rog̃ fit̄ Rog̃i ruffi .iiij. d̄ p'mo
Adā fit̄ Edwī .iiij. d̄
Galfr̄ fit̄ cherri .iiij. d̄
Nichoł fit̄ Widie .iiij. d̄
Andr̄ fit̄ hub̄ti .iiij. d̄



Adā fit thurstañ .iiij. đ
thom̃ fit hug̃ blūdi .iiij. đ p'mo
Ric̃ fit thurstañ .iiij. đ p'mo
Joh̃ hag'was .iiij. đ
Jord̃ fit Waſ̃ Botild̃ .iiij. đ
Wiłł Lunet .iiij. đ p'mo
Andſ̃ fit h̃m .iiij. đ
Petr' fit Wiłłi palm̃ .iiij. đ p'mo
Herbt' fit Walt .iiij. đ
Petr' Villan' .iiij. đ
Joh̃ fit Edward' .iiij. đ
Joh̃ canut' .iiij. đ
Godfr' fit Ric̃ .iiij. đ secūdo
Waſ̃ clech .iiij. đ
Wiłł fit Adelm .iiij. đ
Rob̃ fit marti .iiij. đ
Wiłł fit marti .iiij. đ p'mo
Jacob' fit marti .iiij. đ secūdo
Rein' m'cer .iiij. đ
Rob̃ hag'was .iiij. đ
Wiłł fit Regin^{e} .iiij. đ
Nichol̃ fit Vmfri' .iiij. đ
Wiłł fit Odoñ .iiij. đ
Thom̃ borey .iiij. đ p'mo
Joh̃ fit Wiłłi pilche .iiij. đ p'mo
Petr' fit bruniſ̃ .iiij. đ p'mo
Hildebrād iuñ .iiij. đ p'mo
Robt̃ borey .iiij. đ p'mo
Reiñ' fit Abelot .iiij. đ p'mo
Gilb̃ iuñ de Cholehā .iiij. đ
Philipp' fit Walt̃ fairwī .iiij. đ p'mo
Waſ̃ fit Waſ̃ botild̃. iiij. đ

Wiłł fit Alañ clīci .iiij. đ
Wiłł Shitte .iiij. đ
Rog̃ coch .iiij. đ
Gamel iunior .iiij. đ
Joh̃ Simbel̃ .iiij. đ
Petr' fit Joh̃ .iiij. đ
Rob̃t' Lunetī .iiij. đ p'mo
Siward' dodī .iiij. đ
Thom̃ echenefot .iiij. đ
Andſ̃ fit Segiñ .iiij. đ
Walt̃ de Chotes .iiij. đ secūdo
Rog̃ fit Alex̃ carnif' .iiij. đ p'mo
Hug̃ scissor de Chotes .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fit Wiłłi fit pet^{i} .iiij. đ s'no
Hem̃iſ̃ fit Huniſ̃ .iiij. đ
Henric' bene .iiij. đ
Robt' fit petr' ordwi .iiij. đ secūdo
Clemēs wise .iiij. đ
Ric̃ Villain .iiij. đ
Hug̃ fit hadeb^{a}nd .iiij. đ
Wiłł p'le .iiij. đ
Rog̃ oulā .iiij. đ
Thom̃ scissor fit Wiłłi .iiij. đ
Petr' Bil .iiij. đ
Adā fit Willi milesand̃ .iiij. đ
Hug̃ fit Godwiñ .iiij. đ
Wiłł fit Hugoñ .iiij. đ
Jacob' fit Jord̃ .iiij. đ
Wiłł fit Gilb̃ fit Wimūd̃ .iiij. đ
Rog̃ fit Edwī .iiij. đ
Wiłłm' deubel .iiij. đ
Wiłł de hispan' .iiij. đ p'mo

Waſ barił .iiij. đ p'mo
Waſ puttoc iuñ .iiij. đ p'mo
Roƀ clech .iiij. đ
Huğ fił Juoñ .iiij. đ
Pain fił Sewarđ .iiij. đ
Swein fił Swein .iiij. đ p'mo
Huğ scissor fił pet^{i} .iiij. đ p'mo
Thom̃ infans .iiij. đ
Clemēs fił petr' .iiij. đ
Henric' fił Iuoñ .iiij. đ
Roğ̃ p'de .iiij. đ
Herb't' fillol .iiij. đ p'mo
Nichoł fił Riĉ clici .iiij. đ p'mo
Joħ fił Wiłłi le t^{a}nur .iiij. đ p'mo
Jorđ fił euerard .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fił Wiłłi fremuđ .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fił huğ̃ .iiij. đ
Nigell' de Soltõ .iiij. đ
Robt̃ cūpain iun' .iiij. đ p'mo
Reiñ fił Godwī ruffi .iiij. đ p'mo
Petr' fił Godwī .iiij. đ p'mo
Petr' fił pet^{i} fił martiñ .iiij. đ p'mo
Roğ̃ fił . . . . .iiij. đ secūdo
Alan fił . eẍ ruffi .iiij. đ secūdo
. . . . . .iiij. đ p'mo
. . . . . .iiij. đ p'mo
. . . . . .iiij. đ
. . . . . .iiij. đ
. . . . . .iiij. đ
. . . *pak* . . .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fił Joħ de foriet .iiij. đ
Henric' Borey .iiij. đ

Rein' Sełł .iiij. đ
Joħ fił Joħ fił marū .iiij. đ
Gilƀ menerel .iiij. đ
Henric' midewint' .iiij. đ
Joħ Villain .iiij. đ
Wiłł oulā .iiij. đ
Riĉ poucer .iiij. đ
Nichoł fił Iuoñ pouc' .iiij. đ p'mo
Huğ fił haṁ de foriet .iiij. đ p'mo
Alan' fił Iuoñ .iiij. đ p'mo
Robt' de Soltõ .iiij. đ
Roğ̃ Jagow .iiij. đ
Wiłł Sprot .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fił Ine .iiij. đ
Wiłł Buleheuet .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fił Vler .iiij. đ p'mo
Robt' Wischard .iiij. đ
Lauſ fił Jeruorđ .iiij. đ secūdo
Robt' fił Jeruorđ .iiij. đ p'mo
Roğ̃ fr̃ ei' .iiij. đ secūdo
Wiłł fił Roƀ Luffe .iiij. đ p'mo
Wiłł fił Reiñ ruffi .iiij. đ p'mo
Joħ de bosco .iiij. đ
Roƀ filloł ganta .iiij. đ
ħƀt filloł .iiij. đ
Roğ̃ Seruiēs Hamoñ Lorim' .iiij. đ

Waſ fił Godwī .iiij. đ
Petr' fił Wiłłi Adelm .iiij. đ secūdo
Andř tictor .iiij. đ
Wiłł fił Leurich .iiij. đ
Adā pūchoſ .iiij. đ
Thurstan' Bodi .iiij. đ
Clemēs fił Euerard .iiij. đ
Huğ cruch̄ .iiij. đ secūdo
Roƀ fił Galfriđ cherri (*or* therri) .iiij. đ
Simeon fił thurstañ .iiij. đ secūdo
Galfř fił Eddose .iiij. đ
Hildebrōd iunior .iiij. đ
Thandi fił Galfř .iiij. đ secūdo
Walſ fił fairwyñ .iiij. đ
Riĉ fił f Walſ .iiij. đ p'mo
Roğ pi'ctor .iiij. đ
Wiłłi fił Walſ fił huğ .iiij. đ p'mo
Riĉ fił h'b'ti pellip .iiij. đ p'mo
Petr', fił martiñ .iiij. đ
Reiñ fił marſi .iiij. đ
Roğ fił pain .iiij. đ
Wiłł fił Walſi .iiij. đ
Roƀ de Cholehā .iiij. đ
Joh̄ poucer .iiij. đ
Reiñ ruff' .iiij. đ
Alan' fił Alañ talpī (*or* calpī) .iiij. đ

(*In dorso*)

§§ D Vltimis q^{i} int^{a}ueřt assisā Gilde p'mo. Anno .iiij.^{o} Regni Reğ H. fił Reg' J. ī c^{a}stino Sĉi Jacobi Ap̄li.

§ Petr' Scissor
Wilad fił Walſ vic'

Hemming' fił Warun'
Galfr' fił Eduse

§ . . . . . .
§ . . . . . .

Walt̃ Brun
Ric̃ scissor fit̃ Ranulfi aurif'
Roger' Rassel
Witt̃ fit̃ Roƀ pisc'
Ric̃ fit̃ Ric̃ Rimild̃
Hēric' Bibbe
Wilcin' fit̃ Waf̃ ruffi
Alan' fit̃ Witti ruffi

(*A very recent endorsement*)
Bailiffs Accots 52 Hen 3

Henr̃ de Actouna
Roƀ fit̃ Galfr'
Adā pistor
Ric̃ fit̃ Berneri
Nichol de Soca (*or* Sota)
Witt̃ fit̃ Ernulfi
Warinus clech
Witt̃ fit̃ Laur' molin
Rog̃ bidi
Witt̃ fr̃ suus (*sic*)
Hug̃ Colle
Hug̃ cisor
Ric̃ de Westburi
Adā Witherwart
War nus fit̃ Witti f *odō*

Alanus fit̃ Wilot
Joh̃ turnator
thurgar Bode
Roƀ fit̃ Gilbert
Hamō Lorimari'
Witt̃ fit̃ Warini
Petr' Le Waggere
Petr' Coch
Ric̃ fit̃ thurstani
Ric̃ tailiator
Witt̃ le mercer
Thurstan' Suilart
Laurenti' fit̃ Regi'
Ren'us fit̃ Raƌ
Barthoł fit̃ Barthoł

Witt̃ puttoc
Reiner' le merc'
Witt̃ perle
Witt̃ hō Ade pistoris
Witt̃ Sunerei
Nichol' Colle
Helias cet'
Ric̃ le crumpe
Hug̃ de *Paris*
Walt fit̃ Santon̄
Daret (*or* Baret)
Joh̃ pistor sub Wila
Hamo ferrator
Alanus fit̃ alexandri
Ric̃ Hutte
henr̃ de Selda
Philipp' le merc'
§ Thom̄ troit
§ Witt̃ albus
§ Thom̄ bennt
§ Witt̃ culkin
§ Petr' f Witti
§ Jurden' f Galfr' albi
§ Warinus fit̃ Svein
§ Petr' fit̃ Brum̄gi
§ Roƀ de Westbur'
§ Joh̃ fit̃ Jacobi
§ Witt̃ crassus
§ Rein'us fit̃ Abeloti
§ Nichoł fit̃ Joh̃
§ Ric̃ hō Golde

§ Jurdan'
§ Thom̄
§ Witt̃ fit̃
§ Ric̃ f . . . .
§ Witt̃ fit̃ henr̃
§ Joh̃ hagerwas
§ Rog̃ fit̃ palmer'
§ Ric̃ f . . . .
§ Joh̃ de Cruccern
§ Witt̃ Bil
§ Wiē Seler
§ Roƀ vicēt
§ Rog̃ brun
§ Roƀ pictor
§ Rog . . . .
§ Hamon Wildegos Jun'
§ Ernulfus de .
§ Petr' cisor
§ Adā de Westburi
§ Adā de foriet
§ Laurenti' cox
§ Hug̃ cisor
§ Roƀ piscator
§ Joh̃ fit̃ Edwini
§ Roƀ fit̃ Edwiñ
§ Philipp' de . .
§ Roƀ le tawere
§ Witt̃ faƀ . . arn̄
§ Rondulf' de . .
§ Walt̃ de Brainesford
§ Petr' fit̃ Godwini

1912424

Ric̃ pede
Roƀ hagerwas
Wiłł le Kent
Wiłł fił Bern'i
Henr̃ le Kent
Pain fił Sewardi
Nichoł Agā
Godfridus fił Ric̃ fił tirri
Joħ fił Joħis
Ric̃ f Herberti pmñtarii
Ric̃ le hauburger
Ric̃ tangi
Wiłł Springan
Joħ fił Alexandri
Warinus Vliñg
Reinerus ruffus
Wiłł fił pet'
Wiłł le crumpe
Roƀ Lunekin(*or* Luuekin)
Petr' bil
Aluric' le want'
Philipp' clech
Nichol f Vmfrey
Thom̃ de Bikeduñ
Adā f Wiłłi
Adā fił Edwini
Warin' f huḡ cruccħ
Ric̃ Le Rusmongere
Ric̃ Sitte
Petr' fił Joħ
Alanus fił Juoñ

Ric̃ de Drettuñ
§ Huḡ fił Huḡ
§ Gilbert Juuenis
§ Pħ Richemõ
§ Walt̃ deunan
§ Wiłł Bełłe
§ Thom̃ le merc'
§ Herƀ de frankeuila
§ Philipp' de Rumaldshā
§ Roƀ cisor
§ Ric̃ winepeni
§ Hildebront Juuenis
§ Nicħ fił brun
§ Wiłł fił Gilbert̃
§ Adā Kempe
§ Roḡ pride
§ Warinus de Bikeduñ
§ Nicħ f pet' f Joħ
§ Wille f Rog'i cuti
§ Gilbert' hõ Ric̃ uillani
§ Warinus fił Warini
§ Ric̃ fił Walt̃
§ Thom̃ menerel
§ Ric̃ fił Rein'
§ Roḡ pictor
§ Roḡ fił alexandri
§ Stepħ fił Alexandri
§ Wiłł Vicecom̃
§ Wiłł f Nicħ fił Huḡ
§ Joħ Sunƀel
§ Henr̃ Bibbe

§ Rondolfus aurifaber
§ Dña Joħes alba mentula
§ Joħ de Hib'nia
§ Roƀ Wiscart
§ Alanus Wildegos
§ Wiłł Bulehenet
§ Joħ fił Andree
§ Henr̃ Sket
§ Walt̃ pistor
§ Brunnus pistor
§ Ric̃ bacun
§ Ric̃ de Nortuñ
§ Ada le Want'
§ Roḡ coch
§ Roḡ ulnig'
§ Henr̃ fił Iuoñ
§ Roḡ Sakeli
§ Ric̃ blundus
§ Adā Hareuot
§ Wiłł Bareil
§ Alanus Hennehenet
§ Roḡ fił Edwini
§ Andreas fił Her*ni*
§ Roƀ fił Martini
§ Walt̃ brun
§ Jurdanus Sakeli
§ Warinus agett
§ Henr̃ de Herford̃
§ Henr̃ pistor
§ Roƀ furnator
§ Roḡ fił pain

§ Petr' pistor
§ Huḡ fił Godwini
§ Joseph de Wila
§ Huḡ de psonra
§ Adā Joie
§ Sandi fił Galfr̃
§ Rein'us fił Godwiñ
§ Warinus Furnator
§ Joħ fił Gylwardi
§ Wiłł Longus
§ Wiłł fił Alani
§ Warin' fił Wiłłi
§ Thom̃ fił Hefewis
§ Ric̃ fił Roḡi Brun
§ Philipp' fił Jurdani
§ Huḡ de forieta
§ Andr̃ de forieta
§ Petr' uillanus
§ Joħes de forieta
§ Thom̃ blundus de foriet
§ Edwardus dodin
§ Galfr' f Roƀ piscatoris
§ Alan' fił Aveline
§ Wiłł fił suus (*sic*)
§ Philipp' hõ suus (*sic*)
§ Herƀ Coifarius
§ Clemēs fił pet'
§ Joħes villanus
§ Wiłł furnator
§ Galfr̃ Kek
§ Roƀ Gangelart

Roḡ f Bartholomei
Alanus Slite
Roḡ Lorimarius
Will f Leurici
Will fil Odonis
Gilbert' menerel
Jurdanus . maye
Joh piscator
Will blundus
Thom̃ hot . . .
. . bulbef
. . Ruffus
Ric fil *ayner̃*
. f Willi Brun
Waf f Joh de Bispestan
Rob Leffi
. . t' fil Bernardi
. fil . . as
Ric . . r . . .
. . . ds
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . pet' . .
. . . . . .

§ Will f Willi russel
§ Roḡ Bibbe
§ Joh de Cota
§ Simeon fil Rilot
§ Will cochot
§ Will fil Ade p'sburi'
§ Simon de Longeduñ
§ Roger Culkin
§ Will de Colahā
§ Will f Rob piscatoris
§ Roḡ faber de Colhā
§ Jurdan' f Rob piscatoris
§ Alan' Lenten
§ Andreas tictor
§ Roḡ fil Walt f feirwi
§ Lucas fr̃ ei'
§ Will t'nator
§ Rob de Broy
§ Walt̃ Saddoc
§ Rob Joie
§ Will pistor
§ Herb' fil Godfridi
§ Barthol Sakeli
§ Will Lunet
§ Rob Bunel
§ Will Leye
§ Ric fil Andree
§ Ric de *wos*
§ Will Joye
§ Roḡ fil alexandri
§ . . . . . .

§ Warinus Kempe
§ Joh pilche
§ Will f Iuoñ
§ Rein'us fil Reineri
§ Walt̃ f feirlin
§ Ric̃ cam'ari'
§ Petr' fil Hem̃ngi
§ Jacob' fil Warini
§ Adā fil brin (drin)
§ Huḡ fil Mayote
§ Roḡ ruffus
§ Henr̃ de Bristowe
§ Thom̃ Infans
§ Roḡ Le want'
§ Thom̃ coch
. . . . . .
§ Alan' fil Siwardi
§ Will Le mercer
§ Nichol tannator
§ Joh aurifab'
§ Will fil cor
. . ndr . .
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§ Will perle Iuuenis
§ Gilbert' Bungi
§ Will fil Andree
§ Clemēs fil Euerardi
§ Hufle de Wila
§ Will fil osbe'ti
§ Ric̃ crucche de
§ Henr̃ Borey foriet
§ Ric̃ . . .
§ . . . . .
§ . . . . .
§ . . . . .
§ Joh fillol
§ Howel furnator
§ Roḡ fil Will
§ Suman' fil *Gryffani*
§ Petr' I*mer*ing
§ Thom̃ Lorimarius
§ Walt̃ fil Dorman
§ Johes pistor
§ Ida filia Ydani
§ Nichol fil Yuonis

BAPTISMAL NAMES

With Times of Recurrence (Females Marked "F.")

Abelard, 1; Abelot, 2; Ada, F, 1; Adam, 42; Adelm, 2; *Adon*, 1; Agnes, F, 1; Alanus, 31; Aldredus, 2; Alexander, 12; Alicia, F, 1; Alured, 2; Aluric, 1; Andegi, 1; Andrew, 15; Avelina, F, 1; Ayner, 1; Bald, 2; Baret, or Daret, 1; Bartholomeus, 4; Bernard, or Berner, 10; Bertram, 1; Bodi, 1; Bogge, 1; Bradoc, 1; Brun, or Brunnus, 3; Bruniger, or Brunigi, 2; Bungus, 1; Cherri, 2; Clemens, 9; Cradoc, 1; Cutt', 1; Derem, 1; Dorman, 1; Driw, 4; Edda, or Eddose, 3; Edda, F, 2; Edwardus, 2; Edwinus, 9; Elias, or Helias, 2; Everard, 4; Fierlin, 1; Galfridus, 15; Gamel, 1; Gilbertus, 21; Godfridus, 6; Godwinus, 8; Golda, F, 3; Gryffanus, 1; Gylwardus, 1; Hadebrand, 1; Hamon, or Hammond, 12; Hefewis, 1; Helote, 1; Henricus, 31; Hemming, 5; Herbertus, 14; Hildebrand, or Hildebront, 5; Hoel, or Howel, 4; Hufle, 1; Hugo, 44; Ivon, 8; Ida, F, 3; Jacobus, 8; Jermanus, 1; Jeruord, 2; Jeruas, 3; Ina, F, 4; Isabela, F, 1; Johannes, 77; Jordanus, or Jurdanus, 19; Joseph, 3; Julia, F, 1; Laurentius, 6; Lefwig, 2; Leurich, 3; Luarch, 1; Lucas, 2; Maiot, or Mayote, or *Mayace*, 4; Martinus, 14; Nicholas, 23; Nigellus, 1; Odo, 3; Ordwin, 1; Osbertus, 1; Pain, 6; Peel, 1; Petrus, 54; Philippus, 20; Polle, 1; Radulphus, 4; Ranulfus, 2; Reginaldus, 2; Regine (?) 1; Reinerus, 24; Richard, or Ricardus, 102; Rilot, 1; Rimild, 3; Robertus, 72; Rogerus, 77; Rondulfus, 2; Samson, 2; Sandi, 1; Santon, 1; Segin', 1; Seward, or Siward, 9; Simon, or Simand, or Simeon, or Suman, 11; Stephen, 3; Swain, or Swein, 7; Thandi, 3; Thomas, 37; Tibba, F, 1; Tirri, 1; Thurgar, 1; Thurstan, 12; Umfre, or Umfrey, 3; Vler, 1; Vincent, 1; Walter, 43; Warun, or Warinus, 47; Widie, 1; Wien, 1; Wilcinus, 7; Willelmus, 180; Wilot, 1; Wimond, or Wimmund, 5; Wiscard, 1; Ydanus, 1; Yohan, 1.

SURNAMES AND DESIGNATIONS.

Agam, 1; Agat, or Agett, 3; Alba mentula, 1; Albus, 2; Ascone, 1; Bacun, 5; Bailard, 3; Balle, 1; Bareill, or Barul, 3; Barsebas, 1; Barun, 2; Benne, 2; Bennt, 1; Bibbe, 5; Bidi, 5; Bil, 5; Bille, 1; Blanet, 1; Blund, 8; Bodi, 1; Borei, or Borey, 7; Botild', 2; Brin, or Drin, 1; Brito, 1; Brose, 1; Brucche, 3; Brun, 7; Bruning, 1; Bulbef, 1; Bulchenet, or Bulcheuet, 3; Bulle, 1; Bunel, 2; Bungus, 2; *Carok*, 1; Calpin, 1; Canut, 1; Cass', 1; Cet, 1: Cinerard', 1; Clech, 6; Clubbe, 1; Coch, 7; Cochet, or Cochot, 2; Cognatus, 1; Colle, 4; Cox, 3; Crassus, 1; Cruche, 4; Cruselage, 1; Culkin, 2; Cumpain, 1; Cuti, 1; Deubel, 2; Deunan, 1; Deunard, 1; Dodin, 3; Echenefot, 1; Eliot, 2; Extraneus, 1; Fairwin, or Feirwin, 3; Ferthing, 2; Fillot, or Fillol, 5; Fimbel, 1; Foce, 1; Foliot, or Boliot, 1; Fremund, 1; Fridei, 1; Gangelard, or Gangelart, 3; Hadebr', 1; Hagerwas, 6; Hareuot, 1; Helot, or Hilat, 1; Hoo, or Hot, or Hoc, 3; Hope,; Imering, 1; Infans, 2;

Jagow, or Jagoe, 1 ; Joye, 6 ; Juuenis, 3 ; Kech, or Keck, or Kek, 5 ; Kempe, 4 ; Ketto, 2 ; Land, 2 ; Leffi, 3 ; Lenten, 2 ; Leye, 1 ; Lib', 1 ; Loiboi, 1 ; Lolim', 1 ; Longus, 2 ; Luffe, 1 ; Luncken, or Luuekin, 1 ; *Lumtor*, 1 ; Lunet, 5 ; Marscallus, 2 ; Menerel, 5 ; Midewinter, 1 ; Niger, 2 ; Nope, 1 ; Oulam, 4 ; Palmer, 4 ; Pede, or Peden, 3 ; Perle, 5 ; Pilche, 3 ; Pride, 5 ; Punchot, 1 ; Puttoc, 3 ; Quech, 1 ; Rassel, or Rossel, or Russel, 7 ; Richemon, 1 ; Ruffus, 13 ; Saceli, or Sac', 7 ; Saddoc, 1 ; Satherei, or Sacherei, 2 ; Seet, 2 ; Selo, 1 ; Seler, 1 ; Serich, 2 ; Shitte, or Sitte, 4 ; Slite, 1 : Sprungan, or Springan, 2 ; Sprot, 1 ; Suilard, 4 ; Sunbel, or Simbel, 3 ; Sumerei, 1 ; Talpin, 1 ; Tangi, 1 ; Tece, 1 ; T'ece, 1 ; Tipet, 2 ; Troit, 1 ; Uling, or Ulnig', 3 ; Voce, or Wos, 2 ; Waggere, 2 ; Wallensis, 1 ; Whitemon, 1 ; Widcryard, 2 ; Wild, 1 ; Wildegos, 2 ; Wildeng, 1 ; Winepeni, 2 ; Wise, 1 ; Wiscard, or Wiscart, 2 ; Witherwart, 1.

DESIGNATIONS AND TRADES.

Anglic', 1 ; Aurifaber, 6 ; Blank', 1 ; *Brech*, 1 ; Cach', 1 ; Camerarius, 1 ; Carnifex, 5 ; Carpentarius, 5 ; Cisor, 3 ; Citaredor, 1 ; Clericus, 4 ; Coifarius, 2 ; Crumpe (le), 2 ; Cum pannis, 2 ; Eschactor, 1 ; Faber, 3 ; Ferrator, 2 ; Furner, or Furnator, or Furn', 10 ; Forinsecus, 1 ; Ganta, 1 ; Grocer, 1 ; Hauberger, or Halberger, 3 ; Infans, 1 ; Lorimarius, 8 ; Macer, 1 ; Mald', 1 ; Malier, 2 ; Mercer, 25 ; Milesand', 1 ; Mineator, or Minur, 4 ; Molinarius, or Molendinarius, 2 ; Monachus, 1 ; Parmentarius, 1 ; Pelliper, 3 ; Pictor, or Pinctor, 6 ; Piscator, 13 ; Pistor, 25 ; Poucer, 8 ; Puncher, 1 ; Rusmongere, 1 ; Scissor, 14 ; Seller, 1 ; Serrator, 2 ; Tailiator, 1 ; Tannator, or Tanur, 4 ; Tawere, 3 ; Tinctor, 3 ; Turneator, or Turner, 5 ; Ulnig', or Ulniger, 3 ; Vic', or Vicecomes, 2 ; Vicer, 2 ; Vigilator, 1 ; Villanus, 10 ; Vinetor, 2 ; Wanter, 7.

PLACES.

Actouna, 6 ; Akes, 2 ; Baden', 1 ; Bikedun, 6 ; Bispestan, 1 ; Boscus, 1 ; Brainesford, 3 ; Broy, 3 ; Bru'one, 2 ; Brustoll, or Bristowe, 2 ; Cantelop, 1 ; Cholcham, or Colaham, 5 ; Chotes, 5 ; Cluna, 2 ; Cota, 1 ; Cruecern, 1 ; Dratton, 3 ; Foriet, 12 ; Frankenila, 1 ; Glowcester, 2 ; Hadenal, 1 ; Hereford, 4 ; Hibernia, 2 ; Hispania, 1 ; Inter-Pontes, 1 ; Kent (le), 2 ; Longedun, 3 ; Newnham, 1 ; Nortun', 1 ; Parus, or Paris', 2 ; Pers*hore*, 1 ; P*erseoner*, 1 ; Pichford, 1 ; Presburi', 1 ; Pres*onra*', 1 ; Prestcota, 1 ; Rumaldsham, 1 ; Selda, 1 ; Soca, or Sota, 1 ; Solton, 4 ; Soteplace, 1 ; St. Juliana, 1 ; Stretton, 3 ; Westburi', 6 ; Wigornia, 2 ; Wila, 6 ; Wing', 1 ; Yortun, 1.

BAPTISMAL NAMES.

Some of these are very curious. One can scarcely think of them as distinctive names given in baptism, yet we have no valid reason to entertain a contrary opinion. Many of them are found later as surnames, and in that light only can we *extend* them. They are also

shortened in the text, and some appear in the genitive case. I give instances in alphabetical order.

Andegi' may represent a nominative Andegus, or even Andegavius, and be connected with Andegavia or Anjou; *Bald'* is for Baldus; *Baret*, (which in more modern times is found as a surname, Barrett); *Bodi* and *Bogge*, do not elsewhere appear; *Bradoc*, is still a surname on the Welsh border; *Bruniger*, *Bungus*, *Clarri*, *Cutti*, *Derem*, are only, as far as I am aware, found in this document; *Dorman*, afterwards a surname, Doreman or Doorman; *Driw*, Celtic; *Fierlin* not found later; *Gamel* is a surname at the close of this century, Gamul; *Golda*, a female name, but Ric' Golde is found *temp.* Ed. II., and John Golde, *temp.* Hen. I. It may be linked with Goldyn, Goldwin, and Godwin, and considered as the etymon of those more familiar appellations; *Hadebrand*, may be a shortened form of Handebrand, though Hugh Hathebronde is found among our Provosts *temp.* Hen. III.; *Hefewis*, *Helote*, and *Hufle* require explanation; *Lefwig* and *Maiot* are also inexplicable; *Polle* may be a rendering of Paul; *Regine* may stand for Reginaldi; *Rilot* and *Rimild* are unusual; *Sandi'*, *Santon'*, and *Segin'*, do not elsewhere appear, it is much too early for Sandi' to be a familiar abbreviation of Alexander; *Thandi*, *Tirri*, and *Vler* may be equated with the preceding three; and so may *Widie*, *Wien*, and *Wilot*; *Wiscard* is a surname in 1280-1; while *Ydanus* may be intended for Jordanus.

SURNAMES AND DESIGNATIONS.

Some words included under this title are probably patronymics, and some merely agnomina or nicknames.

Agam and *Agat*, to which *Ascone* may be added, afford no clue to their origin; *Albu mentula* (with the white beard or chin, though *mentula* has another meaning) was mentioned by Owen and Blakeway; *Albus* has perhaps a similar descriptive reference; *Bailard* appears afterwards as Ballart; and *Bareill*, or *Barul*, may have the same origin: *Benne* and *Bennt* may be abbreviations of Benedictus; *Bibbe*, *Bidi*, *Bil*, and *Blanet* appear later; *Blundus* contains an allusion to the colour of the hair or the complexion; *Bodi* was found as a baptismal name, and may be a patronymic; *Borey* has come down to modern times; *Botild'*, *Brin*, *Brito*, *Brose*, and *Brucche* are of difficult etymology; *Bruning* is the origin of our modern Browning; *Bulbef*, *Buleheuet*, and *Bulle* seem to have a common etymon, but if *Buleheuet* be the correct form, it would seem to be a 13th century way of writing Bullhead, or rather Bullheved; *Bunel* becomes Bonel in 1224 and 1280, and *Bungus* is Bungy; *Caiok* is a very queer word, but the reading is uncertain; *Calpin*, *Cass'*, *Cet*, *Clech*, and *Clubbe* are not easily explained; *Cinerard* indicates the profession, a harp player; *Coch* is the same as rufus or ruffus; and *Cochot* some derivative of the same root; *Cognatus* implies relationship; and *Cox* may be a local form of Cocus, both Cox and Colle are still found;

Crassus implies good living, and is the opposite of *Macer*, unless the latter is a trade; *Cruche* may be connected with Crux; while *Cruselage*, *Culkin*, *Cumpain* (with which compare *Cum Pannis*), and *Cuti*, together with *Deunan*, *Deunard*, and *Dodin*, have not survived; *Deubel* is still a surname in Somerset; *Echenefot* may be equated with *Hareuot*, and both be regarded as descriptive agnomina; of the rendering *Eliot*, as well as of the derivation (it may be read Gliot), I am rather doubtful; *Extraneus* afterwards became L'Estrange; *Fairwin*, *Ferthing*, *Fillot*, *Fimbel*, *Foce* (unless this be another form of Vose or Woce), *Foliot*, *Fremund*, seem more familiar; *Frudei* is Friday in 1280, without, perhaps, any reference to the week-day; *Gangelard*, or *Gangelart*, is not elsewhere found, and *Hadebr'*, which may be Handebrand, is found among the baptismal names and, as I have there said, appears as Hathebronde among the Provosts, *temp.* Hen. III.; *Hagerwas* may be of Celtic origin, and mean "ugly boy;" *Hareuot* (*i.e.*, Harefoot) denotes swiftness; *Helot*, *Hoo* (or *Hot*), *Imering*, *Jagow*, may be explained by others, I have nothing to offer; *Kech* and *Ketto* may be of Celtic origin; *Leffi*, *Leye*, *Lib'* (unless it be for libertus), *Loibai*, *Lolim'*, *Luffe*, *Lumtor*, and *Lunet* are beyond conjecture; *Luffe* however survives; if *Luuekin* (Lovekin) be read aright, it conveys a laudable sentiment; *Midewinter* explains itself, but why it occupies the place of a surname is puzzling (as a season it meant Christmas in Anglo-Saxon); *Nope* is a bird in some districts, but here an inexplicable surname; *Oulam*, *Pede*, *Pilche*, and *Punchot* are not found later, but *Perle* and *Pride* are prominent names for many generations; *Puttoc*, afterwards *Pothoc*, may be intended for Pothook, but Paddock, pronounced locally Puddock, is a toad or large frog; *Quech* (six) must be fathered on our Celtic neighbours, for Saxon or Norman throats were unequal to it; *Richemon* does not stand for rich man, in spite of the similarity of sound; *Saceli* may be for Sacelli, and *Sac'* be an abbreviation of Sacerdos; *Sadoc* may have come from the East with *Barsebas*, but *Sacherei*, *Scet*, and *Silo* are probably of Saxon stock; *Seler* appears otherwise as Celer, Celler, and Seller (see below among the trades); *Serich*, *Shitte*, *Sitte*, and *Slite* afford scope for learned conjecture; *Springan*, or *Sprungan*, may refer to the mighty arbalest which in turn harassed besieger and besieged; the race of *Sprot* is not yet extinct, though *Suilard*, *Sunbel*, and *Sumerei* have disappeared; of *Talpin* (? *Calpin*), *Tangi*, *Tece*, *Tece*, *Tipit*, and *Tiret* I can offer no explanation, but Teece, as a surname, was well known 30 years ago; *Uling* or *Ulnig'* (for it may be read either way), seems to be a form of Aulnager, Alnager, Ulniger, a measurer of woollen cloth and an official sworn to enforce and observe the statutes anent the *staple*; *Vose* may be a form of Foce, but we learn nothing from the change of initial; *le Waggere* is possibly an ancient way of spelling wagoner; and *Wallensis* is mediæval Latin for Welshman; *Whitemon* and *Widergard* are tempting, but we must not presume; *Wilde* and *Wildegos* were in the first instance probably agnomina; *Wildeny* has survived; *Wine-*

peni was remarked by Owen and Blakeway and may be a way of spelling Winpenny, Richard Winnepeni was Provost, *temp.* Hen. III.; it is not, however, more amusing than *Wildegos*; *Wise* and *Wiscard* are not unknown to after ages; and *Witherwart* (a word of Teutonic appearance) can only have charmed away excrescences for a generation or two, as he does not afterwards appear.

DESIGNATIONS AND TRADES.

The index I have made of "Designations and Trades," because of the impossibility of separating them, invites a few remarks. *Anglic'* may stand for Anglicanus, but the last letter is doubtful; *Aurifaber* is a goldsmith, and it speaks well for the civilization of that day that as many as six are mentioned, though there may be repetitions; *Blanker* is not elsewhere found, but it may stand for blanketer, a maker of blankets; *Brech* lies under the same disability; *Cach'* may be the abbreviation of cacherellus, a "bum bailiff," which was afterwards shortened to cacherele, a catchpole; *Cisor*, another form of Scissor, a cutter, or tailor; *Citaredor* is a harper; *Coifarius*, if for Coiffarius, a capper, or cap maker, or, just possibly, a dresser of hair, *Coiffeur*; *Crumpe'* for Crumper, a pouchmaker, cruma being a pouch or purse; *Cum pannis* is puzzling, though the meaning is not so, he may have been clad in patchwork, or have been a peddler of cloth, I have compared it above with Cumpain or Cumpani; *Escheator*, an official who "observed the escheats due to the King in the county;" *Ferrator* is a farrier; *Furn'*, *Furneator*, an oven maker, or an iron founder; *Forinsecus* a foreigner, but here merely an *outsider*; *Ganta* is usually a green goose, but here a glover (see *Wanter* below); *Grocer*, "originally a wholesale merchant (grossier) who speculated in various things at markets and fairs;" *Hauberger*, which I have coupled with *Halberger*, most likely a tavern-keeper, other meanings are—a maker of woollen cloth, a maker of coats of mail, which were called hauberks; *Infans*, as a designation, afterwards produced the surname le Childe, or Childe; *Lorimarius*, a maker of bits, spurs, and such-like small ironware; *Macer*, a spice-seller, but in *Piers Ploughman* he is one who carries a spear or club, he may notwithstanding have been only a *spare* man and the opposite of *crassus*; of *Mald'* I can make nothing, unless it be another form of *malier*, which I take to be a maker of coats of mail; Halliwell, however, says, 'Male, a budget or portmanteau, a box, or pack," and makes it an Anglo-Norman word, and then *malier* might be a trunk-maker; *Mercer* is literally a trader, but was gradually restricted to dealers in wares suitable for clothing; *Milesand'* is a very strange designation, yet Millesant is another spelling of Millicent, a female baptismal name; *Mineator*, or *Minur*, an illuminator, a painter in minium, red lead, or vermillion, *recte* miniator, or possibly a miner; *Molinarius*, or *Molendinarius*, a miller; *Monachus*, a monk; *Parmentarius*, a parchment maker; *Pelliper*, pelliparius, a leather seller or skinner; *Pictor*, or *Pinctor*, a painter; *Piscator*, a fisherman; *Pistor* a baker; *Poucer* (which Owen

and Blakeway read Poncer), a pouch or wallet maker; *Puncher*, as a trade, is not found, it may be a designation, or an agnomen; *Rusmongere*, probably a dealer in rushes; *Seller*, a saddler, same as sellarius; *Serrator*, a sawyer; *Scissor*, a cutter or tailor; *Tailiator* the same, though there may have been some distinction; *Tannator*, a tanner; *Tawere*, a maker of white leather; *Tinctor*, a dyer; *Turneator*, or *turner*, a turner, unless the former stand for *tunnator*, a cooper; *Ulniger*, or Alnager, an official who takes cognisance of the measurement of cloth; *Vic'*, or *Vicecomes*, is a sheriff; *Vicer*, for vicar, vicarius, a deputy; *Vigilator*, a watchman, a wakeman; *Villanus*, or villeyn, generally *homo adscriptus glebæ*, but here a designation without that strict original meaning; *Vinetor*, either a vintner or a vine-dresser, probably the former; *Wanter*, possibly a mole-catcher, want, wont, and oont mean a mole in the vernacular, but more likely a glover, for there would scarcely be seven mole-catchers in the Gild, whereas seven glovers would not be at all extravagant. The F. Gant, a glove, from L. wantus, makes gantier ganter, and ganterie; wantus is of German origin, answering to Swedish wante; wantus becomes gant by a common change of *w* into *g (Brachet)*.

PLACE-NAMES.

Actouna, probably Acton Burnell; *Akes*, unknown; *Aqua Solis* and *Baden'* may refer to Bath: *Bikedun* is Bicton, 3 m N.W. of Salop; *Bispestan*, Beeches Lane; *Boscus*, *Broy*, and *Brainesford*, unknown (a Brailesford in Derbyshire); *Bru'onc*, possibly Broughton; *Brustoll* and *Bristowe*, Bristol; *Cantelop* is Cantlop; *Colaham* and *Choleham*, Colcham; *Chotes*, or *Cota*, possibly the "island" of Coton; *Cluna*, Clun; *Cruccern*, unknown in Salop; *Dratton'*, Market Drayton; *Foriet*, Abbey Foregate; *Frankeuila*, Frankwell; *Inter-Pontes*, a plot of land between the Eastbridge and another bridge nearer to the Abbey, now Merivale; *Longedun*, either Longdon, near Pontesbury, or near Lilleshall; *Newnham*, near Hanwood; *Norton*, indeterminate; *Pers*hore, *Per*soner, and *Pre*sonra, unknown in Salop; *Pichford*, now Pitchford; *Prestbury*, not in Salop, but in Cheshire; *Prestcota*, near Baschurch; *Rumaldesham*, a hamlet of which Barker Street forms a part, now within the borough; *Selda*, Mardol Head; *Soca*, *Sota*, probably represent Shoplach; *Wigornia* is Worcester; *Wila*, the Wyle; *Wing'*, unknown; and *Yorton*, about 7 m. N. of Shrewsbury.

THE SHROPSHIRE LAY SUBSIDY ROLL OF 1327.

With Introduction by the Rev. W. G. D. FLETCHER, M.A., F.S.A.

(*Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. V., page 362*).

Chirbury Hundred is the fourth of the Hundreds named in this, the earliest of the Shropshire Lay Subsidy Rolls. In the main it may be said to represent the Domesday Hundred of Witentreu. It contains nothing which that Domesday Hundred did not contain. When the Hundreds of Shropshire were rearranged by Henry I., the better opinion is that the Hundred of Witentreu was then only changed in name. At a later period some few changes were made: Church Stoke, Leighton, and Montgomery were annexed to certain Hundreds in Montgomeryshire; several ancient members of Worthin were put into the Hundred of Ford; and Edenhope into the Hundred of Clun. Chirbury Hundred was, unlike that of Oswestry, an integral part of the County of Salop; it was governed by English law or custom; it owed suit to the County, and was in general responsible like other Hundreds. The Seigneury of Chirbury Hundred was conferred on Baldwin de Bollers, on his marriage with Sibil de Faleise, the King's niece; but early in the reign of Henry III. it was resumed by the crown.

It only remains to add that the notes concerning the persons named in the Subsidy Roll, as well as the historical matter relating to each place, which add so much to the interest of the Roll, are entirely the work of Miss Auden.

HUNDR' DE CHYRBUR'.

MARTONE.

[MARTON.[1]—According to the *Domesday* book this manor was held before and after the Conquest by St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, and under it by a Saxon Alward, who held several other manors in this neighbourhood under Earl Roger de Montgomery. His property was afterwards escheated to the Crown, and St. Chad's lost its seigneury over Marton, which became annexed to the Honour of Montgomery. The De Bollers, lords of Montgomery, held the overlordship till 1207, and later it passed to the Cantilupes. The manor was held under them by the Hunalds, lords of Frodesley. In 1240, William Hunald held half a knight's fee in Marton, but in 1248 he was dead, leaving a widow Loretta, and a young son Thomas. In 1255, William is said to have held two hides here, doing suit to Chirbury Hundred, and victualling the Guards of Montgomery Castle. Thomas Hunald appears in 1263 in a lawsuit regarding the land of six tenants at Marton. The Hunalds retained some connection with Marton in the 14th century, but the chief family actually in Marton seems to have been the Purcels, who were among their tenants early in the 13th century. In 1266, Muriel, widow of Richard Purcel, son of Richard, appealed against the alleged murderers of her husband, who was killed in an affray with Peter Corbet of Caus, and others.

Roger Purcel occurs in 1281, and Richard, son of Roger Purcel, in 1301 and 1318. Griffin son of Griffin also appears in 1318. He may be the Griffin Shyrreve of the Subsidy Roll. Richard de Wotherton and Thomas de Dudston took their names from neighbouring hamlets.]

	s	d
Ric'o Pu[a]cel ...		xij
Ric'o fil' Rog'i ...		xij
Joh'e de Aft'leye ...		xxq[u]
Gryffyn Shyrreue ...		xij
Rog' fil' Ph'i ...		xx
Joh'e le Hewewor ...		xx
Dauid Shyrrene ...		xx
Will'o Crose ...		viij
Hekyn Curteys ...		x
Rog' Mabbemon ...		xvj
Joh'e fil' Simonis ...		xij
Hawys... ...		vj
Thom' Lax... ...		vj
Ph'o fil' Griffini ...		vj
Will'o Pecokes ...		vj
Thom' Dunthull' ...		vj
Griffino de Howewor		xij
Ric'o de Woderton' ...		xvj
s'bt' ibid'm { Will'o' fil Rog'i; Thom' de Dodestone ...		vj; viij
p'b' Sm	xix[s]	vj[d]q[u]

WORTHYN.

[WORTHEN.[2]—This was at Domesday part of Roger fitz Corbet's

[1] Eyton xi. 80. [2] Eyton xi. 95.

great estate, in which he had succeeded Earl Morcar the Saxon. It consisted of 14 hides, and comprised 13 berewicks, and possessed 2 mills, and a wood 2 leagues long, enough to fatten 200 swine. Roger held a portion in demesne, and his tenants, Picot held 3 hides, Reinfrid 3½, Goisfrid 1½, and Grento half a hide.

In 1236-7, Thomas Corbet withdrew Worthen from Chirbury Hundred, and established it on an independent footing. In 1256, 1272, it was represented at the Assizes by 6 Jurors. In 1270, Thomas Corbett received license from the King to hold a weekly market on Wednesdays at Worthen, and two yearly fairs, one on the eve, day, and morrow, of the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul (June 28, 29, 30), and on the eve, day, and morrow, of the Exaltation of the Cross (Sept. 13, 14, 15). He had as early as 1246 procured a grant of free Warren in his demesnes of Worthen and Forden. He died in 1274, leaving his son Peter his heir. It was stated on his death that he had appropriated to himself new Forests at Horsemor, Leluteley, Espeley, Wyrtenhall, Rotbeche, Woxsebeche and Calsbeche. In 1292, Peter Corbet's rights to these chaces and to other privileges in Chirbury Hundred were called in question by Hugh de Louther, one of the King's lawyers, but the matter was finally decided in his favour.

Peter Corbet died in 1300, and was succeeded by his son Peter, who died in 1322, leaving Worthen among the estates settled on his widow, Beatrix, on whose death it passed to the Lords Staffords, co-heirs of the Barony of Caus. The name of Goodale occurs among the chief tenants of Worthen in 1300, and later a daughter of Richard Goodall and Anna Corbet is mentioned in the *Heralds' Visitation* as wife of one the Kerry family of Worthen.

Alice de Hampton took her name from a hamlet of Worthen, afterwards held by a branch of the Corbets. The original parish of Worthen seems to have been formed in Saxon times, and included Shelve, Buttington, Leighton, Trelystan, and possibly Ratlinghope. In 1319, Richard de Stafford was rector of Worthen, and Prebend of Lichfield. He was killed in 1372 by Thomas Watkyns, Richard Batkyn being an accomplice. He may have been a son of William of the Subsidy Roll.]

	s	d
Rog' fil' Petri ...	ij	
Will'o fil' Walt'i ...		xx
Adam Brodeye ...		xxq^{u}
Rog' Grobbe ...		xviij
Ric'o Godal' ...		xvjq^{u}
Thom' de Lauton...		xvq^{u}
Galfr'o Sutore ...	iij	
Will'o Batokyn ...	ij	ob'
Ypkyn Mauncel' ..		xviij
Adam Godale ...	ij	

		s	d
Ric'o le Barcar' ...			xx
Alic' de Hampton' ...			xviij
Joh'e Leuedymon ...		ij	
s'bt' ibid'm	Adam Molendinar' ...		xij
	Dycun de Worthyn ...		xij
p' Sm^{a} xxv^{s} ij^{d}q^{u}			

CHYRREBUR'.

[Chirbury.[3]—Before the formation of the Hundred of Chirbury, this was the head of that of Witeatreu. It was held by Edward the Confessor in Saxon times, and passed at the Conquest into the hands of Earl Roger de Montgomery. It, probably later, formed part of the Honour of Montgomery, till the time of Henry III., when it again became a Royal Manor. In 1255, it was held as a manor of *Royal demesne*, but several tenants held land by tenures made by Godescall de Maghelines, Castellan of Montgomery from 1223 to 1227. John fitz Richard owed, among other things, a week's castle-guard at Montgomery, in time of war, and was bound to provide an attendant on the hunting expeditions of the Lord three times yearly. William fitz Richard owed the same two services, and in addition, was bound to convey Writs any whither in Shropshire, for the Lords of Montgomery. Possibly the David fitz William of the Subsidy Roll may have been son of this William. Beside three other larger holdings there were in 1255, 23 burgages in Chirbury, held at a rent of 9d. each, payable to the Lords of Montgomery.

The Priory of Chirbury was founded for Augustine Canons about the close of the 12th century, by Robert de Bollers, Lord of Montgomery. The Canons originally settled at Snead, near Bishop's Castle, then a member of Robert de Bollers' manor of Church Stoke, but they apparently very soon migrated to Chirbury. The two next succeeding Lords of Montgomery oppressed the Priory, but the King when the Manor came into his hands, treated the Canons more liberally. In 1227, Henry III. gave a Charter to the Priory, granting many privileges of free pasturage in the Royal pastures of Montgomery. Another deed of the same year gave the Canons the tithes of pannage of the woods of Montgomery, and the tithes of Montgomery mill, both in the parish of Chirbury. In 1254, the King gave 50 oak trees from his woods to Chirbury Priory, the Sheriff paying 75s. for their carriage.

In 1271 the Prior was prosecuting John Bernard, William de Lake, and others, for having come to the Prior's house in Shrewsbury, insulted the Canons, and carried away goods to the value of 100s. Ten years later the Canons obtained the King's license to remove back to Snead, on the ground that their ministry had been in many ways interrupted at Chirbury, but this license was not acted upon, probably as the Borders grew there peaceable after the Conquest of Wales. In 1285, Bishop Swinfield visited the Priory, and censured the laxity of discipline he observed there. Four years later, however, he commended the Canons for piety, charity, and hospitality. The following year, he was entertained by the Prior for two days, as he went from Alberbury to Bishop's Castle in the visitation of his diocese.

At the Dissolution of Monasteries, the income of the Priory was given as £66 8s. 7½d. including tithes from the Chapelries of Forden,

[3] Eyton xi. 57.

Hissington, Snead, Church Stoke, and the Chapel of St. Mary's Well. The original parish of Chirbury included with the exception of Worthen, probably the whole of the Domesday Hundred of *Witentreu*, and several of its chapels are now in the Diocese of Hereford, though in the County of Montgomery.

In 1534-5 Oliver Middleton was Prior of Chirbury, and John Middleton was Vicar; apparently they were brothers, and of the family of Middleton, of Middleton, in Chirbury parish.

Walter and William de Wotherton took their name from the Manor of Wotherton in Chirbury parish, which as early as 1220 was held by Feoffees, bearing the name of de Wotherton.]

	s	d		s	d
Dauid fil' Will'i ...	ij	iij	Joh'e fil' Thom' ...		ix
Will'o Fabro ...		xviij	Margaret' le Somter...		vij
Hug' fil' Math'i ...		xviij	s'bt' ibid'm Walt'o de Wo-derton' ...		ix
Thom' le Botiler ...		xij			
Ric'o fil' Hug' ...		xij	Will'o de Wo-derton' ...		viij
Ric'o Oweyn ...		xij			
St'ph' Freund ...		xij			
Walt'o Buncan ...		ix			
Adam Dod ...		xij	p' Sm[a]	xiiij[s]	vj[d]
Will'o Janitore ...		ix			

BROMLOWE.

[Bromlow,[4] Parish of Worthen.—This member of Worthen has little history apart from that of the manor as a whole. Its tenants appear occasionally, but do not seem to have been of note. In 1256, William, son of Richard Pigot, occurs in a lawsuit concerning 11 acres in Bromlow.

Thomas de Locle and Thomas Whyspon took their names from Luckley and Whitsborn, near Bromlow.

The family of Aston of Aston Rogers held land here. In 1256, Margery, widow of Roger Aston, has three tenants of half a virgate each in Bromlow, and a rent of 5s. 4d. from Whitsborn and Lockley.

Later there was a family of Hagar at Bromlow, who intermarried with many of the neighbouring families, including that of Draper of Aston and Bromlow, one of whom, Humphrey Draper, is called Constable of Chirbury. The name Waring is to be found later at Onslow, when Richard Purcell of Winsbury married the only daughter of Thomas Waring of Onslow.]

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[4] Eyton xi. 108.

	s	d		s	d
Rog' de Mydel'ton ...		xij	Thom' de Locle ...		xij
Rog' Hog'... ...		xij	Rog' de le Broke ...		xiiij
Will'o Bulloc ...		xij	Will'o Bercar' ...		xiiij
Ric'o Pygot ...		xij	Ric'o Waryng' ...		viij
Will'o Dulle ...		xij	Ric'o Alote ...		viij
Thom' Gogh' ...		xij	Thom' Whyspon ...		xij
Rog' Geffes ...		xiij			

WYLMYTON'.

[Wilmington,[5] Parish of Chirbury.—This has very little history of its own. In 1255, a hide was held here under the Lords of Montgomery by Sibil and Margaret de Wilmington, and 5 nokes by David de Stockton. This latter held the land through Agnes de Montgomery and her second husband, Stephen de St. Albans, who had usurped the place of Matilda de Montgomery, the rightful possessor. Matilda and her husband, Robert Blundel, tried to oust him, but apparently with doubtful success.]

	s	d			s	d
Ph'o fil' Elye ...		xviij		Ric'o de Wylmyton' ...		ix
Rog' Joppe ...		xij	s'bt' ibid'm	Ric'o de Longgedon' ...		viij
Joh'e fil' Rog'i ...		xvj				
Rog' Brobbe (? Grobbe)		xv				
Ric'o de Lydom ...		xij				
Ric'o Goldwyr ...		x		p' Sm[a]	xxj[s]	vij[d]
Joh'e le Palfreymon...		vj				

WESTON' P'STES.

[Priest Weston,[6] Parish of Chirbury.—This was held at Domesday by Robert Corbet. It had been held in Saxon times by six thanes as six manors. It passed later to the Barony of Longden. In 1255, Lowellyn de Kolbeche (of Colebatch, near Bishop's Castle) "held Weston of the Barony of Longden, and owed suit to the Hundred of Chirbury, and was bound to victual the Guards of Montgomery in return for a right of pasturage which he enjoyed over the Fee of Montgomery."

William Botreaux (IV.), Lord of Longden, exchanged it with Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and in 1315 rents from free tenants at Priest Weston were part of the estate of Edward Burnell. The Canons of Chirbury had a small estate here, and at

[5] Eyton xi. 166.
[6] Eyton xi. 92.

Hagley a member of Priest Weston, from which Adam de Hagley derived his name.]

	s	d		s	d
Walt'o de Weston' ...		xij	Ric'o Broun ...		xij
Thom fil' Hug' ...		xx	Ada fil' Ph'i ...		xij
Joh'e de Weston' ...		xvj	Adam de Haggeleye		xvj
Ph'o de Eggedon' ...		xviij	Hogyn		xij
Ric'o fil' Ade ...		xiij	Will'o Reuen ...		xij
Ric'o fil' Thom' ...		xiij	Walt'o le Whyte ...		xij

WYNNESBUR'.

[Winsbury,[7] Parish of Chirbury.—This is not mentioned in *Domesday*, and first occurs in 1227, when it was reported that it was held by the heirs of Walter le Fleming, of Walford and Stanwardine, under the King, and that two of them were not yet married. In 1240, Richard Purcell and his co-parceners held half a fee in Winsbury and Stanlow, and in 1248, there seem to have been five sharers in the estate. In 1255, Winsbury was "held by the heirs of Walter le Flamanc, as half a knight's fee, by doing three weeks' guard at Montgomery in war-time, and suit throughout the year to Chirbury Hundred, and by attending the Lords of Montgomery thrice yearly in the chace."

One of the co-heiresses of Walter le Fleming married Hugh de Wotherton, and another Richard Purcel. In 1316, William de Wynesbury is alone mentioned as Lord of Winsbury, but the Purcel family continued to have an interest here till much later.

John de Wynnesbury of the Subsidy Roll was probably John, son of William de Wynnesbury, who succeeded his father in 1323.]

	s	d		s	d
Joh'e Brodeye ...	ij		Ric'o Dryt... ...		xij
Adam fil' Hugonis' ...		xviij	Alano fil' Henr' ...		xij
Adam le Swon ...		xviij	Walt'o fil' Rob'ti ...		xviij
Joh'e de Wynnesbur'		xij			

BYNNE WESTON'.

[Binweston,[8] Parish of Worthen.—This was chiefly held in demesne by the Corbets. In 1295, Peter Corbet assigned it as the dower of Joan, the widow of Thomas, his eldest son. In 1303, the manors of Worthen, Shelve, and Binweston are treated as distinct, as they are also in 1316. In 1356, Binweston belonged to a Sir John Corbet, who left it to his son John, though the main line of the Corbets of Caus came to an end on the death of Peter Corbet in 1322, and the Barony was divided between Lord Stafford, who had one moiety,

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[7] Eyton xi. 167.
[8] Eyton xi. 108.

while the other was divided between Robert de Harley and Edmund de Cornwall. Philip de Hockleton took his name from Hockleton near Chirbury, which throughout the 13th and 14th centuries was held by a family of de Hockleton under the Lords of Montgomery. The family of Hockleton, whose pedigree was entered at the Heralds' Visitation of 1589, claimed descent from the de Hockletons.]

	s	d		s	d
Ric'o Cl'ico ...	xviij		Adam fil' Ric'i ...	xv	
Marg' relict' Rob'ti	xv		Thom' Crekes ...	xijq^{u}	
Will'o fil' Rog'i ...	xxj		Ric'o fil' Ric'i ...	xx	
Will'o de London' ...	x		Ph'o de Hokel'ton ...	xq^{u}	
Margaret' Eryd ...	xq^{u}		Ric'o Toxtor' ...	xij	

ASTONE PYGOT'.

[Aston Pigot,[9] Parish of Worthen.—This member of Worthen was held as early as 1180 by a Ralph fitz Picot, and possibly it was in 1087 part of the three hides in Worthen held under Roger fitz Corbet by one Picot. Robert, son of Ralph Pigot, occurs early in the 13th century as making a grant to Haughmond Abbey of land at Medlycott, and the family continued for some generations at Aston Pigot. In 1255, Robert Pigot held Aston under Sir Thomas Corbet. Robert's son and heir, Howel Pigot, occurs frequently between 1292 and 1316. His chief estate seems to have been at Woolaston, near Alberbury.

Richard Pas, who occurs among the tenants of Aston Rogers in 1256, was possibly of the same family as the Isabel Paas of the Subsidy Roll.]

	s	d			s	d
Henr' Sotrych' ...	xv		Will'o Dun ...		viij	
Edm'do de Longgedon'	x		s'bt' ibid'm	Math'o le Whyte	viij	
Gilb'to de Oke ...	xxj			Ric'o fil' Joh'is	x	
Isabell' Paas ...	xiiij			Rog' Durauntes	ix	
Will'o Sond ...	xiij					
Will'o Broun ...	xij		p'b' Sm^{a}		xlvij^{s} ij^{d}o'q^{u}	
Will'o Magges ...	viij					
Rog' Wylkyn ...	xviij					

HOPE.

[Hope.[10]—Hope near Worthen was originally within the limits of the Stiperstones Forest. It was early held by tenants bearing the name of De Hope, who were among the retainers of the Corbets of Caus. In 1255, Robert de Hope held the manor under Thomas

[9] Eyton xi. 105.
[10] Eyton xi. 114.

Corbet, but at the close of that century Hope was in the hands of Peter Corbet, and in 1370 it appears as still held by a branch of the Corbets.]

	s	d		s	d
Joh'e Valkes ...	ij		Lewelino —— ...		xij
Will'o Bole ...		xviij	Henr' Bouche ...		xj
Joh'e Ballart ...		xj	Thom' Bercar' ...		xvjo
Adam Imbard ...		xvjq^{u}			

WALTONE.

[Walton,[11] Parish of Worthen.—This member of Worthen was with Leigh held by the family of Hager under the Corbets of Caus. Henry Hager occurs in a deed relating to land here in 1199. He seems to have been succeeded by Hugh, and he in turn by Thomas Hager, who left two sons, Hugh and William. In 1255, Hugh held Walton under Sir Thomas Corbet. He is one of the witnesses of Thomas Corbet's charter to Alberbury Priory in 1262, and is mentioned in the following year as with him in the Border warfare. In 1267, mention is made of the Welsh having set fire to Walton and Leigh, to Hugh's great loss. William, the brother of Hugh, occurs constantly in connection with Thomas Corbet and his son Peter, as agent and accomplice of their doings. In 1274, Adam Hager held Walton, and occurs among the men-at-arms of the Barony of Caus. He seems to have been succeeded by John Hager, who is called Lord of Leigh and Mindtown in 1316, but the Priory of Chirbury is then said to hold Walton.]

	s	d		s	d
Adam fil' Rob'ti ...		vjq^{u}	Rog' Bouche ...		ixob'
Will'o Passeauant		ixo'	Adam fil' Henr' ...		xiijq^{u}
Rog' fil' Ric'i ...	ij	vijq^{u}	Ric'o fil' Ph'i ...		xviijq^{u}
Ric'o fil' Henr' ..		xiijob'	Thom' de Wylmyn-		
Will'o fil' Ric'i ...		xiiijob'	ton		viijo'q^{u}

MARYTON'.

[Marrington,[12] Parish of Chirbury.—This was in 1086 among the manors of Robert fitz Corbet. The Saxon tenants had been two franklins, Elward and Aluric. A moiety of Robert Corbet's estates passed to the Fitz Herberts, who became lords of Marrington, with tenants bearing the name of De Marrington. Richard de Mereton occurs in 1203, and for four generations it was held peaceably by his descendants, till about 1260, when the three sisters of William de Marrington (I.) gained possession of his estates during the minority

[11] Eyton xi. 112.
[12] Eyton xi. 88.

of his son William (II.). This led to several legal proceedings, but in 1272 William's claim was made good. The son of his aunt Christina, wife of Baldwin de Bollers, held land also in Marrington and in Rorrington. That in Marrington was stated in 1299 to be held by service of providing one soldier in war time at the moat of Poole, with a bow, 2 arrows, and a bolt *(trivolo)*, for a night and day; and by appearing thrice yearly at Pontesbury Manor-Court. In 1374, the whole of Marrington was held under John de Charlton of Powis by Hugh de Bollers.

According to the *Heralds' Visitation*, Margaret de Bollers, daughter of Hugh Bowdler, married Ralph Middleton, and their grand-daughter married David Lloyd, the ancestor of the family of Lloyd of Marrington, who built the fine half-timbered house there.]

	s	d		s	d
Thom' de Whateleye	ij		Marg' de Aldeport ...		xij
Ric'o de Bromlowe	ij		Dauid Molendinar'...		xij
Thom' fil' Will'i ...	ij		Alic' Vidua ...		vj
Edde Voil ...		xij	Heyne		xij

MOKELWYKE.

[Mucklewick,[13] Parish of Hissington.—This, though in the parish of Hissington, is in the county of Salop. It is not mentioned in *Domesday*. In 1255, it was held as half a hide by the heirs of Robert de Overs at 2s. rent, payable to Montgomery Castle. In 1316, it was reported to be held by the King.

Hissington, the parish church, was held by the Priory of Chirbury. After the Dissolution of Monasteries, the tithes seem to have passed in some way to the Corporation of Shrewsbury. There is a note among the Municipal Records of Elizabeth's reign that the "tythes and landes in hyssington are in mortgage to M^r^ Foxe." Priam Lloyd of Marrington married Katherine, daughter of Edward Fox and Elizabeth Leighton of Wattlesburgh.

David de Broke probably from Brook's Hill near Mucklewick. The tithes of Broke and Mucklewick are mentioned with those of Hissington, but have been afterwards erased.

Shelve is the next parish to Hissington, and both lie almost under the shadow of Corndon.]

	s	d		s	d
Hug' Corndonn ..		xij	Ric'o fil' Ade ...		vj
Joh'e fil' Walt'i ...		xij	Adam Dun ...		xij
Walt'o de Shelue ...		vj	Howelo fil' Dauid ..		xij
Dauid de Broke ...		vj	Thom' fil' Ade ...		vj
Thom' fil Walt'i ...		xij	Hug' Dun ...		xij

[13] Eyton xi. 165

ASTONE ROGER.

[Aston Rogers,[14] Parish of Worthen.—This member of Worthen was held early by Henry de Aston, who was succeeded by his son Roger, who was a man of considerable note. In 1255, he held Aston under Sir Thomas Corbet, and the Hundred Roll notes that he had then been blind for seven years, and unable to walk or ride. He died that year, leaving John fitz Peter de Aston, his nephew, his heir. This John fitz Peter also held land at Eyton, near Alberbury. In 1316, Henry de Mortimer of Chelmarsh was lord of Aston-juxta-Caus, and in 1391 it was held by his great-grandson, William de Mortimer.

In 1429 William Bromshill held land here, which he gave by will, together with his land at Minton, to Haughmond Abbey. He directed that his lands in Hope, Aston Pigot, Worthen, Luckley, and Hampton should be sold, and the proceeds devoted to the building of Worthen Church and steeple, and he gave a tenement in Meadowtown to John Rodenhurst.

Richard Bagod of the Subsidy Roll may have been of the same family as Richard Bagot of Aston Pigot, who occurs in 1221 Several of the Pigot family, according to the *Heralds' Visitation*, seem to have intermarried with the Pauntons, who seem from the Roll to have been settled here.]

	s	d			s	d
Ric'o Bagod ..	ij		Thom' le Mareschall		ij	
Adam fil' Rog'i ...		xviij	s'bt' ibid'm	Rog' Bust ...		x
Will'o de Paunton ...		xviij		Ric'o Bercar'		ix
Willo Wyse ...	ij			Madoco Shery		viij
Isabell' de Ingwardyn		xij				
Henr' de Pauuton' ...		xij		p' Sm^{a}	lij^{s}	ij^{d}ob'
Ph'o de Aston' ...		xij				

RORYTONE.

[Rorrington,[15] Parish of Chirbury.—This was a divided manor at Domesday, part being held under Robert fitz Corbet by a tenant Leuric, the other by Osulf under Roger fitz Corbet. The Saxon owners had been Aluric and Elward. Robert Corbet's share passed to the Fitz Herberts. In 1255, William de Mariton held a half virgate in Rorrington, and Roger de Longedon another. Both tenants while they had pasturage of the King's land used to victual the watchmen of Montgomery, but when the right of pasturage was suspended they withdrew the service.

The Longedons were of Longden, near Pontesbury. In 1361, Edward de Longdon held land at Rorrington.]

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[14] Eyton xi. 106.
[15] Eyton xi. 93.

	s	d		s	d
Rog' fil' Marger' ..		xij	Ric'o de Longgedon'		xij
Ric'o Shyrrene ...		xviij	Isota —— ...		vj
Joh'e fil' Rog'i ...		vj	Rob'to fil' Will'i ...		vj
Cecil' Lucas ...		xij	Griffino Bercar' ...		xij
Jul' relict' Ric'i ...	ij		Walt'o de Roryton...		xij

WODERTONE.

[Wotherton,[16] Parish of Chirbury.—This was held at Domesday by Alward, son of Elmund. It had in Saxon times been held by a franklin, Elmund, and after the Conquest retained the same high value (£4) as in King Edward's reign. In 1087, it possessed a priest, and a valuable mill. Alward's manors seem to have escheated to the Crown, some time before the days of Henry I. The tenants of Wotherton, who took their name from the manor, were men of considerable importance, Hugo de Wotherton, in 1203, being a knight, and in 1206 security for Baldwin de Bollers, lord of Montgomery. In 1255, Wotherton was held by Henry de Wotherton as half a knight's fee, by doing three weeks' ward at Montgomery Castle in war-time, and hunting thrice yearly with the lords of Montgomery. He also held a messuage in the "town of Chirbury." The elder line of De Wotherton ended in 1296, on the death of John de Wotherton, in four heiresses, his sisters—Eva, wife of Richard Hord; Matilda, wife of Walter de Hockleton; Sibil, wife of Owayn de Brompton; and Amice, wife of William le Seneschal. Richard Hord bought the share of Amice in Wotherton, Dudson, and Rodenhurst in 1303, and later another share, as on his death in 1326 he was found possessed of three-fourths of the hamlet and mill of Wotherton. The estate remained with the Hords of Walford till the death of John Hord in 1398, when Wotherton, Walford, and his interest in Stanwardine-in-the-Wood, Chelmick, and Rodenhurst passed to his heirs, Fulk Sprenchose and John Gotmond of Yockleton. The younger branch of De Wotherton continued here for a considerable time. John de Wotherton occurs on a local jury in 1274.]

	s	d		s	d
Ric'o fil' Ade ...		xiij	Joh'e de Woderton'...		xvj
Ric'o Martyn ...		viij	Ric'o de Brokes ...		xij
Ric'o fil' Rob'ti ...		xiiij	Griffino Brodeye ...		xij
Ric'o Gybbe ...		xv	Will'o Gogh' ...		xij
Thom' fil' Ade ...		xix	Will'o Brayn ...		xv

SHELUE.

[Shelve.[17]—This member of Worthen was famous in the 12th and 13th centuries for its lead mines. In 1182, it furnished Henry II

[16] Eyton xi. 74.
[17] Eyton xi. 110.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

with 110 cart loads of lead for the Convent Church of Amesbury, and in 1183 and 1185 with 60 loads more. In 1255, Sir Thomas Corbet was said to have withdrawn Shelve from Chirbury Hundred. In 1300, on the death of Peter Corbet, Shelve was valued at £1 14s. 10d. *yer annum.* It possessed a water mill, 16 tenants-at-will, and several cottars. On the division of the Corbet estates, Shelve went to the Harleys, though the Earls of Stafford held the advowson of the Church.]

	s	d		s	d
Petro de Shelue ...	xvjo'q^{u}		Thom' le Stotherd ...		xo'
Rog' Tappynch ...	xvjo'q^{u}		Ric'o de Castro ...		xx
Will'o de Brykenhal'	xvijob'q^{u}		Ph'o de Shelue ...		xv
Rog' de Greotemore	xvj		Will'o Reuen ...		xx

MUNETONE.

[Muneton.[18]—This Domesday manor is now lost, and its exact situation can only be guessed at. It was held by Elward in 1087, having been held by a franklin, Godric, and it had not depreciated in value since the Conquest. In 1221, Adam de Brerlawe and William Passavant occur in connection with land here, and in 1255 Adam de Brerlawe and Adam Passavant held a virgate at Muneton under William de Cantilupe, which together with part of Eyton, near Alberbury, owed service to Montgomery Castle. The same Adam de Brerlawe seems to have held land also at Wigmore and Brerlawe, near Westbury, under the Boterells of Longden. In 1316, John Hager was lord of Muneton in Chirbury Hundred. The overlordship passed from De Cantilupe to Zouche of Haryngworth, who in 1395 held *Moneton* and *Eyton Stokes* as half a knight's fee.

Richard Passavant was probably a descendant of William of 1221. Possibly the William Passavant of Walton of the Subsidy Roll was of the same family.]

	s	d		s	d
Thom' Alcokes ...		xvj	Ric'o de Mapeles ...		x
Alcoke —— ...		xx	Ph'o Molendinar' ...		vj
Ric'o Passeauant ...		xij			

RYTTONE.

[Ritton,[19] Parish of Wentnor.—This was a member of Wentnor in the Hundred of Rinlan, a manor of Roger fitz Corbet. It became the property of Buildwas Abbey by the gift of a Corbet, probably Robert Corbet. In 1354, the Abbey proposed to exchange Ritton with the Earl of Arundel, but the matter does not seem to have been carried out. The Abbey apparently retained an interest here till the Dissolution.]

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[18] Eyton xi. 78.
[19] Eyton xi. 191.

	s	d			s	d
Will'o Alcokes	...	xij	s'bt'	Rob'to Champeneys	...	viij
Martino ——	...	xij	ibid'm	Nich'o de Brugge		x
Hug' de Ryttone	...	vj		Daykyn de Lutle		x
Joh'e Martyn	...	vj				
Ric'o fil' Ph'i	...	xij		p' Sm[a]	xlv[s]	ob'q[a]
Henr' de Cote	...	vj				
Will'o de Actone	...	vj				

RYSTONE.

[Rhyston,[20] Parish of Church Stoke.—This, like Church Stoke, in which parish it is, was held in Saxon times by Siward, and in 1087 by Elward. It passed early to the Crown, and in 1249 and 1254 was assessed to the Royal Tallages. In 1255, Rhiston was held by several tenants by service of doing ward at Montgomery Castle for three days in war-time; doing suit every three weeks to the Hundred of Chirbury and to the Court of Montgomery; of hunting with the lords of Montgomery thrice yearly, and of victualling the guards of Montgomery Castle. Yarford ap Cadogan also held land *in capite* at Rhiston by service of finding one archer in ward of Montgomery Castle for a day and night in time of any Welsh war. He died in 1300, possessed of 36 acres of land at Rhiston, and 2 of meadow, and 50 acres of land and 8 of meadow at Brompton. His heir was his son, Yarford.]

	s	d		s	d
Youan ap Heyne ...		xij	Yarefes ap Youan ...		xij
Youan ap Hychcokes		viij	Youan ap Yarefes ...		xij
Dauid ap Reryth' ...		ix	Gryffyn Vaghan ...		x

BROMPTONE.

[Brompton,[21] Parish of Church Stoke.—This is generally included with Rhiston, and has little separate history. In 1318, the two had a common grievance that the Custos of Montgomery obliged them to do suit at the King's Court of Halston, instead of at that of Chirbury, as their ancestors had done. The tenants of both manors seem to have been almost wholly Welsh. In 1224, Robert fitz Madoc was tenant *in capite* of Brompton, and left two sons, Owen and Meyrick.

In 1346, William de Bollers and certain co-parceners held land in Brompton which Meuric de Hope had held in 1240. The Thomas de Boudlers of the Subsidy Roll would be of this family. According to the *Heralds' Visitation* of 1623, the Bowdlers continued at Brompton

[20] Eyton xi. 71.
[21] Eyton xi. 71.

into the 17th century, but they used the surname Gethin in place of that of Bowdler.]

	s	d		s	d
Rob'to Vaghan ...		viij	Adam ap Youan ...		xij
Gorgonnow —— ..		xiij	Madoco ap D'd ...		xij
Dauid fil' Gorgonnow		x	Wautlyana ux' Wyn		xviij
Thom' le Boudlers ...		xviij	D'd ap Youan ...		xviij
Briano —— ...		xij	D'd ap Gwyn ...		viij

DODISTONE.

[Dudston,[22] Parish of Chirbury.—This was probably among the Domesday possessions of Robert fitz Corbet, as it belonged later to his heirs, the Fitz Herberts. About 1225, Hamo de Wotherton granted to Alan de Bollers a half virgate at Dudston, on payment of 3 merks down, and a yearly rent of 6d. Alan de Bollers also acquired from William de Milson another half virgate held by Simon de Dudston and a croft called Ham. Before 1227, Alan de Bollers, Clerk, gave all his land at Dudston, together with his body, to Lilleshall Abbey. This land the Abbot leased to Henry de Wotherton, son of Hamo, at 6d. annual rent, and to William de Milson for 20s. paid down, and a yearly rent of 12d. paid at St. Alkmund's Church at Michaelmas. In 1240, William de Milson was the sole tenant of Dudston, which he held as a whole knight's fee. He was prevented by infirmity from appearing at the Inquest of the Chirbury Hundred in 1255, and in 1260 he was dead. His heirs seem to have been John Godard and William fitz Hugh. The seigneury of Dudston passed from the Fitz Herberts to the Barons Charlton of Powis. In 1374, Dudston was held under John de Charlton (III.) by two co-parceners, apparently by name Henry de Wynnesbury and Walter de Dudston.

The Prior of Chirbury held a messuage and land in Dudston, which remained to the Priory till the Dissolution.]

	s	d		s	d
Will'o le Webbe ...		xviijo'	Ric'o Andreu ...	ij	vjob'
Nich'o Virly ...	ij	q^{a}	'Thom' fil' Will'i ...		vj
Ph'o fil' Ade ...		xviij	Ph'o de Caldemor'...		xij
Thom' le Tayllour		xij			

MYDDELTONE.

[Middleton,[23] Parish of Chirbury.—This was a divided manor at Domesday. Three virgates of it were retained under the Earl by the Saxon owner Ertein, while another three were held under the same over-lord by Robert fitz Corbet. The Saxon owner of these latter had been Edric Sylvaticus. The former portion came into the hands of

[22] Eyton xi. 157.
[23] Eyton xi. 84.

Henry I. and became a parcel of the Honour of Montgomery, but later it was held directly under the Crown. In 1200, Robert fitz Madoc offered a fine of 15 merks to King John, that he might "have seizin of such lands as his father had held by right hereditary on the day when he put on the habit of religion." In 1203, Robert fitz Madoc sat as a Juror, and apparently a Knight, in some principal causes. In 1224, Baldwin de Hodnet, seneschal of Montgomery, was commanded to give Robert fitz Madoc such seizin of Middleton and Brompton as he had when he set out to see Llewelyn on the King's affairs. A little later Robert fitz Madoc was dead, and the King, at Llewelyn's request, ordered Godescall de Magheliner, Bailiff of Montgomery, to deliver to his widow such portion of his goods and chattels as was customary in those parts, she having been nurse to Llewelyn's daughter, the King's niece. Robert seems to have been succeeded by a son, Owen, but in 1250 the estate was in the hands of co-parceners. In 1255, Roger fitz Elyas, Adam Falc, Osbert and Philip, sons of Heylin, and Gytha, widow of Heylin, held it by service of providing a man with bow or lance in ward at Montgomery Castle for 15 days in war-time; going thrice yearly to hunt with the Lords of Montgomery, and victualling the Guards of Montgomery.

Roger fitz Elyas occurs on jury lists from 1250 to 1274, and Roger Elys of Middleton, his son, in 1292. Madoc Falk, mentioned in 1272, was probably a son of Adam Falk.

Robert fitz Corbet's portion of Middleton devolved to the family of Botreaux, under whom it was held about 1150 by Grenta de Middleton, son of Leuewine. A second Grenta de Middleton occurs in 1227, who was succeeded by his son Roger. In 1255, Roger fitz Grant held two-thirds of Middleton under Reginald Botreaux, Baron of Longden, and owed suit to Chirbury Hundred, and victualled the Guards of Montgomery in return for pasturage on the lands of Prince Edward, the Lord of Montgomery Castle. In 1274, Roger fitz Grant's estate at Middleton was apparently in the hands, by conquest, of Llewelyn. He died in 1281; Roger was dead, leaving his two virgates at Middleton and Kinton to his son, Philip de Middleton, who in 1316 appears as lord of the whole vill of Middleton.]

	s	d		s	d
Thom' lyghtfot' ...		xij	Howelo Andreu ...		xij
Rog' de kynton' ...		xv	Joh'e Breye ...		vij
Will'o Bercar' ...		xij	Leulino —— ...		vj
Adam Seys ...		xiij	Madyn le Crouther'		xiij

WALCOT'.

[Walcot,[24] Parish of Chirbury.—This was at Domesday simply a hide of waste land without a tenant. In 1252, mention occurs of Roger de Walcot, and in 1301 of William de Walcot. In 1249, there

[24] Eyton xi. 161.

was considerable litigation over a tenement at Walcot and lands in the neighbourhood, which Peter de Montgomery had left to his infant daughter Matilda, which had been misappropriated by her mother Agnes and her stepfather, Stephen de St Albans. Matilda became the wife of Robert Blundel, who in 1255 held land in Wilmington by service of a lb. of pepper, and who was then in the service of Prince Edward in Scotland. In 1256, Robert and Matilda bought 2 carucates and 25 acres of land and 3 mills in Bishop's Castle, Chirbury, Walcot, Lydbury, and Whitecote from Robert and Christina de Hamp . . ., paying £10, and granting a life tenure of such land as Robert and Christina had held in Chirbury and Walcot, at a rent of 2s. and a lb. of pepper. Robert Blundel became a knight, and occurs frequently in connection with the Barons of Caus.

A virgate and a half in Walcot was in the 13th century in the hands of the De Hockletons.

This Walcot must not be confused with that in the parish of Lydbury North, from which the family still remaining in Shropshire took their name.]

	s	d			s	d
Adam Oweyn ...	iij		s'bt' ibid'm	Will'o ap Guyn	x	
Thom' de Walcot' ...	ij			D'd ap Phelyp	viij	
Ph'o Oweyn ..	ij			Rog'de Woderton'	viij	
Walt'o Dod ...		xviij				
				p' Sum^{a}	xviij^{s}	iij^{d}q^{u}

p'b' Sm^{a} Totius Hundr'.
xiij^{li} ix^{s} vj^{d} ob'q^{u}.

(To be continued).

SELATTYN: A HISTORY OF THE PARISH.

By the Hon. Mrs. BULKELEY-OWEN.

Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. VII., p. 234.

1678. John Jones S. T. B. The Bishop's Certificates, St. Asaph, record his presentation to the Rectory of Selattyn, by Thomas Lloyd, Esq.,[1] upon 3 August, and the Register tells us "John Jones successit, Aug. 6, 1678." Canon St. Asaph, 1681.

His early history is somewhat uncertain. Foster's *Alumni* says he was the son of Richard Jones, of Selattyn, and was born in 1650. There is no entry of his baptism in the Register, nor in that of St. Martins, to which parish, more likely, his family belonged.

We find in Selattyn Register, that in 1656 "Susanna ye daughter of Mr. Richard Jones of Weston by Ellen his wife was Christened ye 2nd day of October."

The Weston here mentioned is Weston Hall, a half-timbered house, at Weston Rhyn, which was formerly a part of St. Martins parish.

In the first half of the 17th Century there are a number of entries of this family in Selattyn Register. They are as follows:—

1613. Prudens, d. of Robert Johns by Sina his wife, chris. 28 Feb.

1618. Elizabeth d. of Thomas Johns of S[t] Martyn's Parish by Elizabeth d. of Robert, his wife chris. 14 Nov.

1623. Robert Johns gentleman, was buried 2 June

[1] Pub. Rec. Office.

1624. Margaret d. of Thomas Johns Gent. and of Jane Davids his wife chris. 1 Oct[r]

1627. Robert son of Thomas Johns Gent. & of Jane Davids his wife chris. 14 Oct[r]

1635. Sina Jenings widow, late wife of Robert Johns Gent was bur. 26. April.

She was probably of the Dudleston family, who were then living at Daywell, par. Whittington; by virtue of the marriage of Philip Jennings, of Dudleston, with Jane, dau. and heir (1584) of Robert Lloyd, of Daywell.

Selattyn Register records the burial of Elizabeth, wife of Richard Jennings, 28 Dec., 1652. And the baptism of Christian, daughter of Phillip Jennings, of Duddleston, gent., by Christian his wife, 22 Feb., 1657.

1658. Rees ye son of M[r] Thomas Jones of Daywell by Isabel his wife chris. 2 Feb.

1659. Elizabeth the Wife of William Johns of Weston bur. 13 March.

The family of Johns or Jones of Weston Rhyn claim descent from Gwynfrych, 2nd son of Cadell Deyrnllwg, Prince of Powis, through Jevan, 4th son of Ednyfed Gam, of Llys Pengwern, in Nantheudwy[1].

They were a Royalist family. On April 14, 1647, we have the "Petition of Edward Jones, of St. Martins, in the Lordship of Oswestry, co. Salop, to the Commissioners for compounding. That he has been in arms against the Parliament, by reason whereof he is rendered delinquent and his estate under sequestration. He is comprised within the articles agreed on at the surrender of Harley Castle in Salop. Prays to be admitted to a favourable composition according to these articles."

"Received 14 April, 1647, and referred to the subcommittee."[2] From the Catalogue of Compounders we learn that he had to pay £74 5s. 0d.

There is a Tablet in St. Martins Church, to one Edward Jones, of Weston Hall, so late as 1817. He was the last of his name.

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[1] *Hist. Powis Fadog*, vol. 1, p. 316.

[2] Calend. State Papers, Domestic,

Edward Jones,[1] d. 1817.

Ann Jones, heir to her brother, d. at Oswestry, 1816. = Edward Birch, of Oswestry, (He purchased a dwelling-house in Willow street, from the heirs of Robert Lloyd, of Swanhill, dec.)

Anne Birch, d. and heir of Weston Hall, St. Martins, and Mytton Hall, parish Fitz. Mar. setts. dated 4 April, 1815, d. 1845, aged 65. = William Birch Price, of Felton Butler, par. Gt. Ness. (He assumed the name of Birch before Price on his marriage). d. 10 Jany., 1842, aged 65.

E. Birch Price, d. inf.

Wm. Jones Price, d. inf.

Mary Vaughan Price, d. and heir, mar. 1843, d. s.p., 1891. = Edward Humphrey Dymock, of Penley Hall, co. Flint, Clerk in Holy Orders, b. 1813, d. s.p. 26 Sept., 1874.

Edward Williams-Vaughan, of Broom Hall, Oswestry, Esq., is the present owner of Weston Hall.

But to return to our Rector. Foster says he matriculated at S. John's College, Oxford, 6 May, 1670, aged 20, and that perhaps he was a B.A. from St. Mary Hall, 9 Feb., 1674-5.

The name of "Johannes Jones, Salopiensis, pauperis filius," appears in the entrance book of S. John's under the year 1669, but the Principal says—"he may have been entered on our list before he came into residence or matriculated."

If the above facts are correct, Browne Willis must be wrong in stating that he was Vicar of S. Martins in 1665, of which he was deprived, and Vicar of Llansilin in 1667. He was, however, Canon of St. Asaph, 1681.

We have no record of his marriage, the baptism of his two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, nor of the burial of his wife.

Their existence is proved by the following administration to his will:—

Vicesimo Octavo die emanavit commissio Margareta Gibson

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[1] This is probably "Edward Jones, the son of Mr. Richard Jones by Elizabeth his wife, born 16 May, 1740."—Regist. of S. Martins.

(uxori Edmundi Gibson. S. T. P.) et Elizabethæ Jones, solute, liberis naturalibus et legitimis Johannes Jones, Sacre Theologie Bacalaurii nuper Rectoris de Selattin, in Comitatu Salopiæ, vidui, defuncti, habentis, &c., ad administranda bona jura et credita dicti defuncti, de bene, &c., juratis.[1]

Our Rector's daughter, Margaret, was the wife of "Edmund Gibson, son of Edmund Gibson of Knipe, co. Westmorland; pp. Queen's College, Oxford; Matric. 29 Oct., 1686, aged 17; B.A. 1691; M.A. 21 Feb., 1694-5; Fellow 1695; Librarian at Lambeth and D.D. 18 June, 1702; a student of Middle Temple 1694; Rector of Stisted, Essex, 1700; of Lambeth 1703; Precentor of Chichester, 1703, and Canon residentiary; Archdeacon of Surrey 1710; Master of St. Mary's Hospital (in the Deanery of Storington), Governor of the Charterhouse 1716, and of the Council of the King; Bishop of Lincoln 1716, and of London 1723 until his death at Bath 6 Sep., 1748, aged 79; bur. in Fulham Church Sep. 17."[2]

He is said to have had twelve children, seven of whom survived him.[3] Their names are given in a Chancery suit between the Gibsons, Bettesworths, Thomas Turner, Humphrey and Mary Edwards, and John Jones, who appeared as plaintiffs against the Bishop of St. Asaph, Thomas Lloyd of Aston, and others, concerning Sir Nathaniel Lloyd's bequests to the poor of Oswestry and Whittington.[4]

Bishop Gibson's eldest son, Thomas, predeceased him, leaving a widow, Mary Gibson. The Rev. Edmund, second son, matric. at Ch. Ch. 11 Decr., 1730, aged 17, B.A. 1734, d. 17th April, 1771; George matric. 1732, Rev. William 1733 (Sinecure Rector of Llanfor 1746), and Robert 1739.[5]

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[1] P. Ct. C. Admon. Act Book, 1710, March 28.
[2] Foster's *Alum. Oxon.*
[3] *Dict. Nat. Biog.*
[4] Trial in Chancery, 19 July, 1745.
[5] Foster.

The will of Sir Nathaniel Lloyd, together with the plaintiffs of this lawsuit, seem to point to some relationship between the Rector of Selattyn and the Lloyds of Aston, which may account for the bestowal of the living upon John Jones.

Sir Nathaniel Lloyd, Fellow of All Souls, and Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, was the son of Richard, fourth son of Andrew Lloyd of Aston.

His mother must have been a Jones, for in his will (1740) he gives "to the poor of Mortlake, Surrey, where my grandfather and grandmother Jones were buried, £25."

He states that he "gave to my cousin, John Jones, in 173-, £500 towards setting him up, he was specially recommended to me by my good Grandmother Jones."

He gives "to Mrs. Gibson, who is my Mother's God-daughter, £100 & the rest of my Plate." She was the daughter of the Rector of Selattyn.

I give to M^rs^ Turner of OldPort one hundred guineas.

She was the daughter of Rossendale, brother of Thomas Lloyd of Aston, who died 1754.[2]

I give the residue of my personal estate of what nature & quality soever to & amongst all the sons & daughters of the Lord Bishop of London, & the Dean of the Arches,[3] Mr. Turner's children, the grandchildren of Cousin Tom Lloyd & John Jones; now I know where it goes, such who shall not accept their share, these to go to the Turners.

Executors—D^r^ Kinaston[4] & M^r^ Greenley.

Selattyn Register states that "John Jones, Bachelour of Divinity, Rector of the Parish 32 years, died Feb. 15, & was buried 17^th^ of the same, A.D. 1709."

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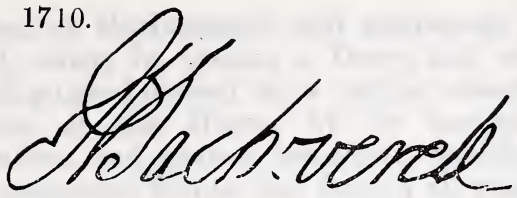
[2] See chap. iv., Oldport.

[3] John Bettesworth, Dean of Arches 1710—1751. I do not know their relationship to the Gibsons. The children were Thomas, Edmund, and Margaret.

[4] Edward, third son of Edward Kinaston of Oteley, co. Salop, Advocate-General of the Arches Court of Canterbury. Bap. Ellesmere 1678. Will dated 23 July, 1745.

1710. 

Born at Marlborough, Wilts, 1674. Educ. Marlborough School; Matric. Magdalen Coll. Oxford, 28 Aug. 1689, "aged 15;" Demy of his Coll. 1689—1701; Fellow 1701—1713; B.A. 30 June, 1693; M.A. 16 May, 1696; Pro Proctor 1703; B.D. 4 Feb., 1707-8; D.D. 1 July. 1708; Appointed Delegate of Appeals 1706; Sen. D. of Arts 1708; Bursar 1709; Incorp. at Cambridge 1714[1]; Vicar of Cannock, co. Stafford; Preacher at S. Saviour's, Southwark, 1705; Rector of Selattyn, 26 June, 1710—13; Rector S. Andrew's, Holborn, 13 April, 1713—1724; Died at Highgate 5 June, bur. 11th June, 1724, at S. Andrew's, Holborn.

The family of Sacheverell were of great antiquity in the counties of Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Warwick, and Dorset,[2] and Doctor Sacheverell is stated to have belonged to the Dorsetshire branch of that family.

The arms of Cheverell only differ from those of Sacheverell in a tincture.

Those of Cheverell are—*Arg., on a Saltire az., 5 water bougets of the field.*

Those of Sacheverell are—*Arg., on a Saltire az., 5 water bougets or.* Crest—*A goat statant (sometimes passant) ppr.*[3]

Bloxam tells us that "Joshua Sacheverell died Rector of S. Peter's Church, Marlborough, leaving a numerous family, in very low circumstances," and that "Mr Edward Hearst, an Apothecary, who was his godfather, adopted Henry as his son and sent him to

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[1] Foster's *Alum. Oxon.* Encyclop Brit. (Ed. 1888). Bloxam vol. iii. (Ed. 1879).

[2] Nichols' *Leicestershire*, vol. iii., pt, 1, p. 510; Hutchins' *Dorsetshire*, (3rd Ed.) i., p. 414.

[3] Burke's *Armory.*

school at Marlborough, and afterwards to Magdalen Coll., where he became a Demy, and where he soon distinguished himself by a regular observation of the duties of the House, by his compositions, good manners, and genteel behaviour, qualifications which recommended him to that Society of which he became a Fellow."

His enemies, on the other hand, accuse him "of ingratitude to his relations and of turbulent behaviour at Oxford."

Swift, in his *Journal to Stella*,[1] disproves the first of these accusations.

Janry 22, 1711. Did I tell you that Sacheverel has desired mightily to come and see me? but I have put him off; he has heard that I have spoken to the Secretary in behalf of a brother whom he maintains, and who desires employment.

. . . Last night I desired Lord-Treasurer[2] to do something for that brother of Sacheverel's: he said he never knew he had a brother, but thanked me for telling him, and immediately put his name in his table-book. I will let Sacheverel know this, that he may take measures accordingly, but he shall be none of my acquaintance.

Jan^{ry} 31, 1711. When I came home to-night, I found a letter from Dr. Sacheverel, thanking me for recommending his brother to Lord-treasurer and Mr. Secretary[3] for a place. Lord-treasurer sent to him about it; so good a solicitor was I, although I once hardly thought I should be solicitor for Sacheverel.

March 17, 1711. Dr. Sacheverel came this morning, to give me thanks for getting his brother an employment. It was but seven weeks since I spoke to Lord-treasurer for him. . . . We dined together at my printer's . . . I little thought, and I believe so did he, that ever I should be his solicitor to the present ministry, when I left Ireland.

The accusation of "turbulent behaviour" was probably grounded upon the following rebuke:—

A.D. 1692-3. Janry. 31. Comparuit Sacheverell, Semicom. coram Vice-Præsidente et tribus Decanis, et admonitus est

[1] Vol. i., p. 477.

[2] Harley, Earl of Oxford.

[3] St. John, afterwards Lord Bolingbroke.

propter contumacium et contemptum erga Decanum Artium V. P. Reg.[1]

It must be remembered that he was then only a high-spirited lad of 18.

He must have profited by the admonition of his superiors, for we find the President of his College, Dr. Hough (afterwards Bishop of Lichfield), "had a great esteem for him and greatly assisted his advancement in life."

Joseph Addison was a contemporary and "Chamberfellow," and one of the intimate friends of Henry Sacheverell. Addison dedicated to him one of his poems.[2]

Sacheverell translated from Virgil's first Georgic into English verse, beginning at "Imprimis venerare Deos." This he dedicated to John Dryden, Esq.[3]

A.D. 1703, July 17 Mr. Sacheverell electus est in Lecturem Academicam indotatum. V. P. Reg.

Probably about this time he became public tutor, and had "the care of the education of most of the young gentlemen of quality and fortune that were admitted of the College, and in that station trained many persons eminent for their learning and abilities.[4]"

Amongst his pupils was Robert Lloyd of Aston (M.P. for Salop, 1710), the Patron of Selattyn, who presented H. Sacheverell to that living after his Trial.

We cannot do more than touch here upon the Trial. It will be remembered that it was the result of his two sermons on passive obedience and non-resistance, one of which was preached at Derby Assizes, 14 August, 1709, entitled "The Communication of Sin," which was dedicated to his kinsman, George Sacheverell, High Sheriff of Derby, and to the Gentlemen of the

[1] Bloxam, vol. iii.

[2] Ibid, vol. iii.

[3] *Examen Poeticum*, London, 1693. See Wood's *Athen.*, vol. iv., p. 603.

[4] Nichols and Bloxam.

Grand Jury. And the other before the Lord Mayor, Sir Samuel Garrard, the Aldermen and Citizens of London, at S. Paul's Cathedral, 5 Nov., 1709, entitled "The Perils of False Brethren both in Church and State."

Swift[1] asserts that the prosecution of Sacheverell was provoked by the Lord Treasurer, Godolphin, whom under the name of "Volpone" he had attacked in one of his sermons, and Burnet, Sacheverell's bitter enemy, gives the same reason for it.[2]

Before his trial the Doctor applied to the President and Fellows of Magdalen College for a testimonial, which was granted, and of which the following is a copy:—

Whereas our letters of testimonial have been desired by Henry Sacheverell D.D. and Fellow of St. Mary Mag. Coll. in Oxford we the President and Fellows of the said College do hereby certify to all persons whom it may concern that the said Henry Sacheverell is a person of sober life and conversation, well affected to the present Constitution both in Church and State, to her Majesty's person and government, and to the Protestant succession as by law Established. That he hath always expressed a laudable zeal against popery, and hath never in his discourses to the best of our knowledge manifested any ungrateful sense of the great blessings which the Church and State, the University, and particularly the College of which he is a member, gained by the late happy revolution. In witness whereof we the said President, and Fellows have hereunto set our Common Seal, the 18 January in the 8th Anne, 1709-10 (Ledger W., p. 47.)[3]

We see from this document that his College supported him loyally.

His opinions were well known in Oxford, four years before his sermon at Derby. Hearne's Diary tells us :—

A.D. 1705. Decr 23.

This morning preached at St Mary's Mr Sacheverell of Mag. Coll. upon "*In Perils amongst false brethren*" in the prose-

[1] "Memoirs relating to the Change in Queen's Anne's Ministry, 1710."

[2] *Hist. of His Own Time* (Ed. 1734), Book vii., p. 538.

[3] Bloxam, vol. iii.

cution of w^h words he did, with a great deal of courage and boldness, shew the great danger the Church is in at present (notwithstanding the Parliament voted it to be none) from the fanatics and false brethren, whom he set forth in their proper colours.[1]

Hearne's description of the sermon at S. Paul's is very graphic:—

A.D. 1709. Nov. 11.

On Saturday last being the day of the Powder Plot, Doctor Sacheverell preached at S. Paul's where he thundered most furiously against the fanatics for condemning the King of high treason, against his supreme subjects, as he expressed it. He spoke very freely of the Toleration act, and charged the Mayors and Magistrates with want of zeal for the Church, and played particularly and expressly upon the Bishop of Sarum,[2] whom he hoped was no great friend to popery; but by his *Exposition*, he said, *on the Articles*, one would think he was half channelled over. There were about 30 Clergymen in the Choir, among the rest the minister of Battersea, who is lately come over to our Church. Sacheverell having heard of his conversion, levelled his arguments and anathemas most virulently against him and the whole tribe of them, insomuch that all the congregation shook again at the terrors of his inveterate expressions. The Whigs, says he, are conformists in faction, half-conformists in practise, and non-conformists in judgement; formerly they laboured to bring the Church into the Conventicle, but now they bring the Conventicle into the Church, which will prove its inevitable ruin.

Hearne then comments upon the rejection of the proposal to print the sermon, by the majority of the Court of Aldermen on 12th Nov., and gives it as his opinion that Sacheverell was "only a man of much noise but little sincerity." He says, however, that:—

A.D. 1709. Dec. 5.

Notwithstanding the great clamours raised against D^r Sacheverell's sermon . . . yet it is come out verbatim as it was preached. And to confirm what he said about the doctrine of non-resistance there are reprinted two old sermons of Bishop Burnet, in which the same doctrine is advanced as

[1] Bloxam, vol. iii.
[2] Bp. Burnet.

high, notwithstanding this Bishop for secular ends has since renounced this doctrine and declared against it, as severall others have done for the same ends; and Dr S. himself is not to be excused, he having taken the oaths; whereas resistance is allowed upon no account, and what is usually said about the abdication is all sham and trick, the King having no more abdicated, than his brother, King Charles II. did, when he was forced to retire out of his Kingdoms.

This Dr S. preached yesterday se'nnight at Lowthbury Church,[1] where there was so great a concourse of people, that they had asked to have pulled down the Church doors and windows to hear him. Here it must be remarked that Dr S., as he is a man of little or no learning, so he is remarked for severall blunders and odd mistakes in this Sermon, and particularly for making comets burst their orbs, which is reckoned absurd, as what he once observed in another Sermon about parallel lines meeting.[2]

The first motion against the two sermons was made on 13 Dec., 1709,[3] by John Dolben, Esq., M.P. for Lescard, Cornwall, son of a former Archbishop of York. This gentleman figures as the "Knave of Hearts" in a set of playing cards about Dr. Sacheverell. Underneath are the lines:—

> Here an Archbishop's son ye Church impeaches,
> Whose Sire if living would abhor such speeches.[4]

On 14 Dec., Sacheverell was called before the Bar of the House, and ordered to be taken into the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and Mr. Dolben was sent to the Bar of the House of Lords to impeach him.

12 January, the Sergeant-at-Arms delivered up the Doctor to the Deputy of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

14 January, he was released on bail, himself in a recognizance of £6,000, and his two sureties (one of

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[1] S. Margaret's, Lothbury.

[2] Bloxam, vol. iii.

[3] The dates of procedure are taken from "Account of what passed most remarkable in the last Session of Parliament relating to the Case of Dr. Sacheverell." Printed 1710.

[4] Satirical Prints and Drawings in Brit. Mus., No. 1546.

whom was Dr. Lancaster, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford), each in £3,000.

25 January, he delivered his answer to the Impeachment in the House of Lords. Hearne tells us that it was contained "in 19 presses of parchment, and took three-quarters of an hour in reading." He says "the Dr. vindicated all his points from Councils, Fathers, the 39 Articles and Homilies, and from the most learned Bishops."

27 February his trial began, and continued till the 23 March, 1709-10.

It is unnecessary to describe here the enthusiasm it aroused on the part of the people. Crowds attended him daily from the Temple to Whitehall, striving to kiss his hands, shouting "Sacheverell and the Church for Ever," "God bless the Queen, God preserve the Church of England."

If such a demonstration appears strange to us, we must remember that only 50 years had passed since the Restoration of King Charles II., when the Church of England was restored to her people. Many still living could remember the bitter days of persecution, such as those described by Evelyn, in 1657.

I went to London with my wife to celebrate Christmas Day . . . M^r^ Gunning[1] preaching in Exeter Chapell . . . as he was giving us ye Holy Sacrament the Chapell was surrounded by souldiers, and all the Communicants and assembly surpriz'd and kept prisoners by them, some in the house, others carried away . . . As we went up to receive the Sacrament, the miscreants held their muskets against us as if they would have shot us at the Altar[2] . . .

Lady Wentworth, writing to her son, Lord Raby, Minister at Berlin, "24 Feb., 1709-10," tells him, amongst other gossip, that

Secheverel is to be tryed next Thursday: thear is very deferent openycons of him. Westminster Hall is full of Scaffolds.

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[1] Afterwards Bishop of Chichester and of Ely.

[2] *Evelyn's Diary* (ed. 1819), vol. i., p. 308.

And on 6 March, 1709-10, she says—

Secheverell will make all the Ladys turn good huswivs; they goe at seven every mornin.[1]

Daily services were much frequented in Queen Anne's reign, the hour for Morning Prayer in the London churches being often as early as six or seven o'clock, on weekdays.

Hearne tells us, "A.D. 1709-10, March 2," that the Doctor "was prayed for by name at S^{t} Bride's & severall other Churches in London . . . & in the Country;" and that "the Queen was present both on Monday & Tuesday" at his trial, and that "the mob both in London & elsewhere (as well as the most considerable persons of distinction that are famed at all for integrity) are altogether for the D^{r}."

Prayers were also desired in the Queen's Chapel "for Dr. Henry Sacheverell under persecution," by Mr. Palmer, for which he was removed from his post."[2]

Marc h 4th. The managers against D^{r} S. finished all the articles on Thursday and the evidence was summed up by M^{r} Lechmore,[3] a man of parts, but a most vile stinking Whig. . .

The sentence was pronounced on Thursday, March 23. It forbid the Doctor "to preach during the Term of 3 years next ensuing," but was no bar to the performance of his other ecclesiastical duties.

The two sermons for which he was impeached were ordered to be burnt before the Royal Exchange, but Sacheverell's friends, wishing to justify his cry of "the Church in danger, easily succeeded in obtaining an order from the House of Commons, two days before, to burn five other books by Matthew Tindal and Clendon,[4] which had given great offence by their aspersions upon the clergy.

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[1] "Wentworth Papers," pub. 1883.
[2] Lathbury's *Hist. of Nonjurors.*
[3] Nicholas Lechmere, Esq., M.P. for Appleby.
[4] *Books Condemned to be Burnt*, by J. Farrer.

Lady Wentworth writes to her son, 7 April, 1710:—

The Saturday I got into the House of Lords . . . and truely from that day's debate I did not think the Doctor would have got off so triumphantly, for all that spoke then for the Dr were Lord Haversham, Notingham, jernsey, and Lord North and Grey.[1]

The voting was, as we know, 69 Peers voted him guilty, and 52 not guilty. The Bishops were almost equally divided, six voting in his favour, and seven against him.

The bonfires and illuminations and public rejoicings in London cannot be described here. In Shrewsbury those in favour of the Doctor were accused of causing riots, and were the occasion of a letter to the Earl of Bradford, dated 31 March, 1710, which was signed by Robert Corbet and others.[2]

Lady Wentworth tells her son, "Midsummer Day 1710[1]":—

St Cheverel is very much adored, the Bisshop of Salsberry as much dispysed, which I am not sorry for, its justly come upon him.[3]

Doubtless she was amongst "the ladies who flocked in crowds to the Churches where he read prayers."

Salmon,[4] a contemporary writer, makes the following comments:—

I do not pretend to any great intimacy with Dr Sacheverell, but being employed in compiling yo first four volumes of State Trials, and receiving an intimation yt there were some omissions and alterations in that of the Doctor, published by authority,[5] particularly as to the Republican principles there advanced, and the scurrilous language given him by some of ye managers, I went to his house in Holborn, and enquired, if

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[1] Wentworth Papers.

[2] *Bibliography of Dr. H. Sacheverell*, by F Madan, 1884.

[3] Wentworth Papers.

[4] *Abridgement and Critical Review of the State Trials*, p. 843.

[5] *The Tryal of Dr. Henry Sacheverell*, pub. by Jacob Tonson by order of the House of Peers, 23 March, 1709-10. The publishing of Parliamentary Reports without an order was illegal until 1771.

he could furnish me with any materials that would set his case in a truer light: He answered, that the printed Trial was no more his Trial, than it was my Trial, etc., intimating, that the whole must be altered to do him Justice; and that the real Trial was preparing to be printed in Holland; but the turn of times prevented the Design.

He was a tall, fair, personable man and spoke gracefully: no man read divine Service better—to create in people a just veneration for y^e^ Service of y^e^ Church, and I have heard several excellent discourses from him in y^e^ Pulpit, his voice and action exceeding just.

The D^r^ had a good reputation at Oxford as to his Parts, Learning and Morals, and had some persons of Distinction under his Tuition at Magdalen College of which he was a Fellow.

That the Sermons for which he was impeached are far from being so scurrilous as Bishop Burnet's History (who abuses D^r^ Sacheverell) etc.

Sacheverell's trial may not have been printed in Holland, but his famous sermon was translated into Dutch, as we learn from the correspondence of Thomas Pitt, Governor of Madras for the East India Company, the founder of that illustrious family. Whilst on his way home from Madras, Thomas Pitt had a narrow escape from shipwreck in a Danish ship on the coast of Norway, and he was detained for a long time at Bergen.

He writes from there to his eldest son, Robert Pitt:—

1710. June 20^th^. Bergen.

We are alarmed by varietye of news but none good for us. . . . Yesterday we had news by a Russ . . . that the Confederate Army was intirely routed (which God forbid) for from what I heare and inferr from the Sermon of D^r^ Sacheverell, which is printed in High Dutch, and makes a great noyse in these parts, our nation is ripe for confusion and destruction; which God prevent, and I hope no child or relation of mine will have a finger in it.[1]

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[1] Hist. MSS. Com. *13th Report*, Appen., part iii. The MSS. of J. B. Fortescue, Esq., preserved at Dropmore, vol. i., pp. 47, 48.

Robert Pitt, M.P. for the Borough of Old Sarum, and George Pitt, M.P. for the Borough of Wareham, co. Dorset, both voted in favour of Sacheverell.

The Sacheverell controversy was fruitful in literature.

The Library of S. Paul's Cathedral contains no fewer than 159 pamphlets on the subject.[1] Bloxam collected for the Library of Magdalen College, Oxford, no less than 107 sermons and pamphlets.

Both public and private libraries abound with them.

At the beginning of his trial the Doctor published a collection of "Prayers and Meditations on the Day of his Trial." Price one penny. Amongst the petitions was the following beautiful prayer:—

> O Thou God of patience and consolation, grant me patience and resignation under my sufferings. Give me Christian courage to perform the cause which I have in hand.

Trimmel, Bishop of Norwich, one of Sacheverell's opponents, speaks of his publication of these prayers as presumptuous.[2]

At the close of the trial, he published "Prayers of Thanksgiving for his Great Deliverance out of his Troubles, 1710."

A number of satirical engravings concerning the High and Low Church parties were issued in the reign of Queen Anne. Many of these prints are very rare. The British Museum[3] contains no fewer than 29 in which Dr. Sacheverell figures.

The first of this collection

No. 1495. "*The Jacobites Hopes or Perkin riding in Triumph.*" A.D. 1709,

represents Dr. Sacheverell, habited as a Jesuit, riding as postilion upon one of two asses attached to a car in which Prince James Francis Edward is seated. The

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[1] *Notes and Queries*, 6 January, 1894, "The Sacheverell Controversy," by W. Sparrow-Simpson.

[2] Lathbury's *Hist. of Nonjurors.*

[3] Catalogue of Satirical Prints and Drawings in the Brit. Mus., vol. ii., 1689—1733.

Doctor is blowing a trumpet, the banner of which has the monograms "E.R." and "A.R." (those of the Prince and of Queen Anne). The asses are named "Non Res"[istance] and "Pass[ive] Ob"[edience].

No. 1496. "*Needs must when the Devil drives,*"

represents the Prince riding in a coach with six horses. "H. Sach[everell]lio," blowing a trumpet "tantive hi Oh," rides as postillion.

No. 1498. "*The High Church Champion & his two Seconds,*"

represents Sacheverell seated at a table listening to the Devil, who flies in the air behind his seat, and receiving the Pope's benediction while he is composing his sermon "In Perils among False Brethren." On the table is a book "Ye Communication of Sin." Below are these lines :—

'Tis these False Brethren plague ye Church & State
Princes dethrone & Civil War create
And the just power, of Parliaments debate.
Such pamper'd Priests plead ye Pretenders cause
Support his Faction & despise the Laws,
And cry High Church is ruin'd & undone
If Persecution don't through Britain run.
What tho' this Emblem may have little in't
Yet since you bought ye Sermon, buy ye Print.

The reply to the above is

No. 1499. "*The High Church Champion Pleading his own Cause or the Pope & the Devil Vanquish'd by a Flurt from the Drs. Pen*" *(No. 1.)*

The Doctor is represented seated at a table, on which is a letter beginning

Most dread Sover-Having.

He is flurting his pen at the Devil, who is flying away; at his side is a Bishop, or probably Sacheverell wearing a mitre ; on the ground are a Papal tiara and cope.

A trumpet, the banner of which is embroidered with a serpent's head, projects over the table. Below are the lines :—

I no such Seconds need to Plead my Cause,
Scoffs I contemn & trample on Applause
False Brotherhood's the object of my hate
Satan's the Prince on whom these mungrels waite
Him I dismis to his Dark Region Hell
With thousands of False Bretheren to dwell
And to the Triple-Crown I'le be as civil
And hence I'le kick it headlong to the Devil.
Whilst Wealth & Honour, Fame, & Great Renown
I wish the Queen, the Church, the Imperial Crown,
View well the Emblem, mind the Matter in't
And for the Sermons Frontspeice, buy Ye Print.

No. 1500. "*High Church Champion pleading,*" &c. *(No. 2.)*

Sacheverell seated at a table, with a book before him, flurting his pen. None of the other figures in No. 1 are represented in this print.

No. 1501. "*To the Unknown Author of the High Church Champion,*" &c.

Nos. 1503, 1504, and 1507 contain allusions to Sacheverell.

No. 1510. "*Portrait of Henry Sacheverell, D.D., holding an Engraved Portrait of Charles I.*"

Below the portrait of the King are the lines :—

To preach up Truth, some say tis not a time
False Brethren allwaies think ye Truth a Crime.
But since ye Truth offends, I'll vex you more
And show ye face of Truth you' ve wronged before.

No. 1511 alludes to Sacheverell.

No. 1513. A satire on Sacheverell.

No. 1514. *A youth seated at a table apostrophizing the Portraits of "Car I. Rex. Ann Reg. & Hen Sache."*

Below are lines written by a youth of 15 on the sight of the three pictures.

No 1501

INK-PHOTO SPRAGUE & Cº LONDON.

No. 1519. *Sacheverell Portraits* (Feb. 1710).

An oval woodcut of the Doctor in the centre of six other portraits, *i.e.*, five of his counsel and one of his solicitor.

No. 1520. "*Aliquid pro Nihilo Ducunt. Cic.*" (Feb. 1710.)

A plan of the House of Lords and a King enthroned, before whom stand Sacheverell and one of his counsel; by the throne is another. Below are verses.

No. 1522. *Portrait of Six Bishops and Dr. Sacheverell (No. 1).* (March 20, 1710.)

The six Bishops who voted him "Not guilty." Those of York, London, Durham, Rochester, Chester, and Bath and Wells.

No. 1523. *Portrait of the Same (No. 2).*

A Dutch copy of No. 1522. It has inscriptions in English, French, and Dutch, and an alphabetical list of the Lords and M.P.'s in England and Wales who voted for the Doctor.

No. 1524. *Portrait of the Same (No. 3.)*

No. 1525. *A Historical Emblematical Fan in Honour of the Church of England.*

It was said that "when Sacheverell was the pet of the ladies, nothing would serve for fan-mounts but representations of the Church Martyr at the bar."

S. Paul's Cathedral, the Queen, six Bishops, and Dr. Sacheverell, Martyrs, and many other figures are represented on this fan.

No. 1527. "*The Living Man's Elegie or Dr. Sacheverell's much lamented Silence.*" (March 23, 1710.)

Lines on a scroll under an arch, over which is a portrait of Ben. Hoadley, D.D.

Epitaph

Here lies Sacheverell, who would have thought it
Jacks and Highflyers did not, tho' they wrought it.
From Fiercely Preaching in a railing way
He's now debarr'd, then laugh and go your way.

Sacheverell's advocacy of "passive obedience" had exasperated so many that they rushed into the opposite extreme of extolling Hoadley.

No. 1531. "*The Funeral of the Low Church*," &c.

A funeral procession, in which Dr Pede and three other men lead, saying, "Would we had let Sacheverell alone."

No. 1535. "*The 3 Pillars of ye Church.*"

Portraits of Sacheverell, of Francis Higgnis (or Higgins), M.A., Prebend of Christ Church, Dublin, who is mentioned in Swift's works, and of Philip Stubbs, M.A., Rector of Woolwich and S. Alphege, London Wall, Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital, and in 1715 Archdeacon of St. Alban's.

No. 1537. "*Aminadab, or the Quaker's Vision*," contains allusions to Sacheverell and reflections on Sir Samuel Garrard, who denied that he had sanctioned the printing of the sermon preached before him as Lord Mayor.

No. 1538. "*The Whigs Unmask'd*" contains a portrait of Sacheverell.

No. 1539. "*The Coffeehouse Mob.*"

Allusion to the Doctor in the verses.

No. 1545. "*An Answer to the Liveing Man's Elegy.*"[1]

Emblematical of the Church, of the six Bishops, and of Sacheverell.

No. 1546. *Cards about Dr. Sacheverell.*

Twenty-six cards, the suits of Diamonds and Hearts.[2] Most of them depict the career of Sacheverell.

The Six of Diamonds represents Sacheverell arriving at Selattyn, and being received by his parishioners.

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[1] No. 1527.

[2] The Clubs and Spades "have fallen into the hands of Mr. William Frazer of Dublin." See *Notes and Queries*, April 7, 1894.

Here Welch Parishioners attend his Coach,
And joy to See their Ministers Approach.

S^t. Isaphs Bishop for his Flocks Instruction,
Allows Him Institution and Induction.

N° 1547.

The goats on the mountain side may be typical of Wales, or may be an allusion to his family crest.

Selattyn is frequently spoken of as being in Wales, on account of its being in a Welsh Diocese.

The Ten of Diamonds. Sacheverell receiving from the Bishop of St. Asaph institution to the living of Selattyn.

This Bishop, William Fleetwood, was one of the seven who voted against Sacheverell. He was spoken of by Queen Anne as "My Bishop."[1]

Queen Anne was known to be on the side of Sacheverell. The following anecdote in a letter of Peter Wentworth, Sep., 1710, confirms this :—

Lord Kent [*i.e.*, Henry Grey, 12th Earl of Kent, creat. Duke of Kent April, 1710] seem'd to be in great perplexity how to vote in the Doctor's tryal. Cornwall told him the surest way to know the Queen's mind was to ask her himself. He took his advice, and the Queen told him she thought the Commons had reason to be satisfied that they had made their allegations good, and the mildest punishment inflicted upon the D^{r} she thought the best. He went away and voted for the severist. Cornwall went to him the next day, and when he told him what he had done, Cornwall told him he might expect to have his key sent for very soon. The Duke said no 'twas the wisest thing he had done a great while, notwithstanding he knew he had acted against the Q——n's opinion . . . but Cornwall was in the right and his Lordship deceived, as he own to him afterwards, but told him the Q——n had dismist him with all the marks of kindness[2] . . .

No. 1549. "*Wonder upon Wonders*" (1710).

An address presented to Queen Anne from the City of London. Amongst the clergy are Dr. Sacheverell and Dr. Atterbury.

Sacheverell is mentioned several times in the verses. Hearne tells us in his Diary that Dr. Sacheverell's "speech at his trial was none of his own, but was

[1] See Swift's "A Pretended letter of thanks from Lord Wharton to the Bishop of St. Asaph."

[2] Wentworth Papers, 1705—1739.

penned by Dr. Francis Atterbury" (afterwards Bishop of Rochester).

This may be true, but Nichol and Bloxam are both mistaken in saying that Dr. Sacheverell bequeathed £500 to Dr. Atterbury in his will.

No. 1570. "*The III. Oculists of Great Britain.*" Portrait of Dr. Sacheverell as the principal oculist.

We now come to Sacheverell as Rector of Selattyn. The Bishop's Certificates, St. Asaph,[1] tell us he was presented to the living 26 June, 1710, by Robert Lloyd, Esq., his old pupil at Magdalen.

The sentence pronounced against him at his Trial merely concerned his suspension from preaching for three years, it being "carried by one voice that he be in that time capable of any further preferment; he is likewise to exercise any of his other priestly offices besides preaching."[2]

His journey to Selattyn was a great triumphal progress, as even his enemy Burnet was forced to admit "he was followed by such Numbers, and entertained with such Magnificence, that our Princes in their Progresses have not been more run after than he was."[3]

His route appears to have been a very circuitous one. The following extracts from an unsigned letter never before printed are very interesting:—

[4]London, June 29, 1710.

To Wm Robinson Esq.[5]

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[1] Public Record Office.

[2] Hearne's *Diary*.

[3] *Hist. of His Own Times*, vol ii., p. 553.

[4] Brogyntyn MSS.

[5] Son of John Robinson of Gwersyllt and Acton, by Elizth., d. and heir of Sir Gruffydd Jeffreys of Acton, Kt., and grandson of John Robinson, Vice-Admiral of North Wales. Col. in Royal Army, Knight of the Royal Oak, 1660; M.P. Beaumaris, 1661—1679. Went with Charles II. to the Continent. Parl. confiscated his property, restored by the King. Bur. Gresford 1680. (See *Hist. Powis Fadog.*)

at Gwersillt, near Wrexham
Denbighshire
(Chester post)

. . . My last left Dr Sachevell at Eccleshall in Staffordshire at Dinner, he was invited from thence to Newcastle,[1] where he was met by a good number on horseback & Greated by the Corporac'on, where he lay that night, the People shewing ye same demonstrac'ons of joy as they had done at all other places. The next morning at the Request of the whole Parish he Baptized a child by his own name, Captn Dyot another Gent & a young Lady of ye best ffashion in ye place being gossips, & the Church was fuller than it has been in the memory of man. After which he left ye place & was receᵈ at Nantwich, wᵗʰ ye same herde, having refused sevˡ invitations by ye way, to wait upon ye Bpp of Chester[2] at Broxton, where he was received by ye excellent Prelate wʰ ye highest marks of Respect, & lay there [that] night, & proceeded on his journey next day, and was met at Holt, ye 1ˢᵗ Village in Denbighshire by Geo. Shakerley Esq. attended by a very numerous train of Gents, Clergy & Householders, who thanked him for ye gᵗ services he had done & conducted him to Crossfold, to Mr Shakerly's house, where he & ye Company were nobly entertained, ye Bells ringing in all places he past, proclaiming his Welcome & particularly at Holt, ye inhabitants excused ye ringing only one Bell, assuring ye Dr it was as ye ffanatick moderac'on & Reformac'on of 41. had left yᵐ, & thanked ye Dr for saving ye one Bel.

The rest I refer.

His reception at Wrexham and Shrewsbury is further described in a Tract entitled

"*Dr. Sacheverel's Progress from London to his Rectory of Salatin in Shropshire*," "in a letter from a gentleman that accompanied him." London 1710.[3]

Page 13 :—

We met with nothing out of the common course of civilities till we came to Wrexam, a Corporation Town in Shropshire,[4] which being near the Drs new Living, made unusual Preparations to Entertain us & burned effigies of Mr Hoadley etc in

[1] Newcastle-under-Lyme.
[2] Sir William Dawes.
[3] Brit. Mus.
[4] Wrexham, in Denbighshire

the Bonefires w^h^ were lighted at our going through the Town. An Unchristian Practice, w^h^ the Doctor abhor'd & w^h^ made him make the best of his way out of it, for Salatin, the Place which his Rectory lies in, & within a Mile of w^h^ we were met by upwards of 3,000 of the best men of that side of the Country, who conducted us to M^r^ George Shakerly's House, where we lay & were handsomely entertained. So much for a Journey that has been the most grateful & pleasant I ever met with. . .

Y^r^ assured friend & serv^t^,
J. K.

The following letter from the same Tract describes his entry into Shrewsbury, and from thence to Bridgnorth, but this seems to have been subsequent to his Induction at Selattyn.

Bridgnorth. July 6^th^.

Sir . . The D^r^ having been invited to Shrewsbury on the 3^rd^ Instant was met at Monford Bridge, three miles off this Town by — Kinaston Esq.,[1] Corbet Kingston Esq.,[2] M^r^ Owen,[3] M^r^ Cressit,[4] M^r^ Cresswell,[5] M^r^ Mitton[6] & all the neighbouring gentlemen & others, & was conducted to the town by above 5000 Horse, after which he was nobly entertained there,[7] as well as at M^r^ Owen's of Cundover from whence we arrived at this place[8] . . . we were met with one of the Candidates[9]

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[1] Probably John Kynaston, who, with Robert Lloyd of Aston, was M.P. for co. Salop, 1710. It is possible that the letters signed "J.K." are by him.

[2] Corbett Kynaston, M.P. Shrewsbury, 1713—20.

[3] Roger Owen of Condover, Sheriff Shrop., 1708.

[4] Edward Cressett of Upton Cressett and Counde, Sheriff Shrop., 1702.

[5] Richard Cresswell of Sydbury Hall, Sheriff Shrop., 1711. M.P. for Bridgnorth

[6] Probably Richard Mytton, great-grandson of the Parl. General who mar. Letitia, d. of Roger Owen of Condover. He died 1731.

[7] A letter from Rich. Cresswell, signed "R. C. Junior," says "Dr. Sacheverell comes from Condover on Wednesday, the 5th July, & doth me the honour to dine that day at the Cock & Castle in Bridgnorth. I beg the favour of all clergymen & others that are well wishers of him or his doctrine, to accompany him into Town about twelve o'clock." (*Sheriffs of Shropshire*, p. 167.)

[8] Bridgnorth.

[9] Richard Cresswell. In 1710, Sir Humphrey Briggs, Bt, was M.P. for Bridgnorth, who voted against Sacheverell.

for the next Parliament with ab[t] 3500 horse & near 3000 foot with white knots edged with gold, & 3 Leaves of gilt Laurel in their Hats, & the Hedges 2 miles from the Town being dressed with the finest of Flowers, & lined with People; & the two Steeples Dress'd out with Fifty Pounds worth of Flags & Colours. On the morrow we shall likewise go to Ludlow,[1] whither we are likewise invited, & where there is not one Dissenter in the Town.

The Doctor was Instituted & Inducted, this day Sevennight,[2] when he gave a handsome Entertainment to all that were present at the Ceremony, w[h] is all from Sir

Y'r very humble servant

J. K.

It would be very interesting to know something of this Banquet. Selattyn Rectory at that time was so small, it could have held but few guests; perhaps the Doctor entertained them in the Tythe Barn. There is no record of him at Selattyn; his name does not appear in the Register; whether he ever officiated in the Church is unknown. Most of the services at that time were in Welsh, and probably the parish was left entirely to the care of the Curate.

His visit to Selattyn at this time could only have lasted for a day or two at the most, as his reception at Shrewsbury was between June 29th and July 3rd. Whether he ever revisited his parish is unknown.

His ride through Oswestry is described by Pennant[3]:

> The crowd in Oswestry was so great, that a good old woman could only see a small part of the holy man, yet consoled herself with having a sight of his ever-blessed wig as he rode along.

At Shrewsbury "the public crier proclaimed his coming, and the bells rang out their loudest peals. . .

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[1] Both Members for Ludlow, Sir Thomas Powys, Kt., and Acton Baldwyn, Esq., voted for Sacheverell. The Churchwardens' accounts of Ludlow have the following entry:—"1713. To the Ring[rs] for D[r] Sacheverell; sentence being expired 0. 5. 0." (Shrop. Arch. *Trans.*, vol. v., p. 96.)

[2] June 29th.

[3] *Tour in Wales*, vol. i, p. 361 (Ed. 1810).

On his arrival he was conducted to the Raven and entertained after old Shropshire fashion." A characteristic reply is reported of him, with reference to some of the ministry who did not wish to make such a display, but who desired to wait upon him at night, "that he would have no Nicodemuses."[1]

The practice of christening children after the Doctor appears to have prevailed in Shropshire, as well as in other places,[2] though I have found no record of it in the registers.

The author of the *Old Shropshire Oak* tells us that—

> Wherever the Doctor went people were desirous to have their newborn infants christened with a name so revered, and having been transmitted through several generations, it is not yet extinct in this town [Shrewsbury, 1825.[3]]

A writer from Shrewsbury, who signs himself "R.E.D.," states that—

> His popularity was so great in the Town that people continued to christen their children with his name . . so recently that a respectable man, called Sacheverell Phillips, is still living in the prime of life. His unwieldy appellation is familiarly abbreviated into Shev."[4]

Before 20 July, 1710, Sacheverell was at Oxford. Hearne, writing under that date, tells us—

> Last night the Judges came to Town, & a little before they came Dr Sachl returned from his parsonage (Salattyn) & was conducted into Oxford by the Sheriff of the County & a great many others, in all about 500. This was purposely laid, that he might by coming at such a time have the bigger numbers, & thereby add to the grief of his enemies.

Hearne also tells us that the Doctor stayed at Oxford "near a month."[5]

From Oxford he went to Marlborough, his old home.

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[1] *An Old Shropshire Oak*, by Warter, vol. iii.

[2] At Pontefract, children were christened Sacheverell. (*Notes and Queries*, January 6, 1894.)

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Notes and Queries*, April 9, 1892.

[5] Bloxam, *Hearne's Diary.*

Peter Wentworth, writing to his brother, Lord Raby, at Berlin, says—

5 Sep. 1710. They tell a Story which was lately happen'd when Dr Shachevel was at Marlebourgh & treated highly & presented by the people. The Duke of Summerset[1] being there invited him to come & dine with him the next day, but that night he received letters from Court wch did not please him, so he came early that morning in a pett for London & order'd his Steward to lock up his doors, so the Dr went away without a dinner.

Those that tell this Story most favourably, say the Dr sent to know what time his Grace wou'd give him leave to pay his respects to him, & he sent him word at ten the next morning & went away by six.[2]

After this rude behaviour on the part of the Duke, I have nothing to record about the Doctor until the following year, when he was probably residing in Southwark or London, and appears to have become much involved in politics.

Swift describes the situation sarcastically in his *Journal to Stella*, Aug. 24, 1711:—

And Sacheverell will be the next Bishop[3]? He would be glad of an addition of £200 a year to what he has, and that is more than they will give him for ought I see. He hates the new Ministry mortally, and they hate him, and pretend to despise him too. They will not allow him to have been the occasion of the late change;[4] at least some of them will not; but my Lord-Keeper owned it to me t'other day.

Two years after, 23 March, 1713, the Doctor's suspension expired. "The day was celebrated with great rejoicings in London and several other places.

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[1] Charles, 6th Duke K.G. He was commonly called "The Proud Duke of Somerset." (See *Burke's Peerage*.)

[2] "Wentworth Papers."

[3] Of London.

[4] The new Parliament, under a Tory Ministry, met 25 Nov., 1710. The satirical Print at the Brit. Mus. No. 1531 refers to this:—

"Triumphant Tories now assume their powers,
And Fill those Places which we once called ours.
Whilst we Poor Whigs our wretched Fate bemoan,
And wish we'd let Sacheverell alone.

On the following Sunday he preached at his Church in Southwark."[1] And Bloxam tells us "that at that time his reputation was so high that he was enabled to sell the sermon . . for the sum of £100, and upwards of 10,000, it is said, were soon sold."[2] Swift says that Sacheverell told him the bookseller intended printing 30,000 copies.[3]

On the 13th April, 1713, he was presented by Queen Anne to the Rectory of S. Andrew's, Holborn, which was then valued at £400 a year.

The church had been lately rebuilt, and there was a "good Parsonage House in the Churchyard." The parish was very large, and, in the words of Stow, "from this Church of S^t^ Andrew, up Old-bourn Hill be divers fair builded Houses, amongst the which stand three Inns of Chancery."[4] The gentry had at that time not forsaken that part of London. Dr William Fleetwood, the Bishop who had inducted Sacheverell to Selattyn, followed him to Holborn in 1714, on being translated to the see of Ely.[5] Ely House, formerly called Ely's Inn, then stood in Holborn.

Browne Willis tells a story of the way in which Sacheverell became Rector of S. Andrew's:—

When the impeachment was over, the Ministry took very little notice of him, & treated him with g^t^ indifference, but upon the Rectory of S. Andrew's, Holborn, being vacant, the Doctor applied to them for the Living, but they had no regard to his solicitation, upon w^h^ he wrote to D^r^ Swift, with whom he had a very slender acquaintance, to request his Interest with the Government for that Parish, & set forth how much he had suffered for them & their Cause. D^r^ Swift immediately carried the letter to Lord Bolingbroke, the Secretary of State, who railed much at Sacheverell, calling him a busy intermeddling Fellow, a Prig, & an Incendiary, who had set the

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[1] *Hist. of Nonjurors.* This sermon was entitled "The Christian Triumph, or the duty of praying for our enemies."

[2] On Palm Sunday, Bloxam.

[3] *Journal to Stella*, April 2, 1713.

[4] *Survey of London*, bk. v., p. 251.

[5] He died 1 Aug., 1723.

Kingdom in a Flame, w^h could not be extinguished, & therefore deserved Censure instead of a Reward. To w^h Swift replied, true my Lord, but let me tell you a short story.

In a sea fight in the reign of Charles II., there was a bloody engagement between the English & the Dutch Fleets: in the heat of w^h a Scotch Seaman was severely bit by a Louse in his neck, w^h he Caught, & stooping down to crack it between his nails, many of the sailors near him had their heads taken off by a Chain Shot from the Enemy, w^h scattered their brains & Blood about him. Upon this he had compassion upon the poor Louse, returned him to his place, & bid him live there at his Discretion, for as he had saved his Life, he was bound in gratitude to save his. The recital of this, put my Lord Bolingbroke into a Fit of Laughter, who, when it was over, said, "The Louse shall have the Living for your story," & soon afterwards Sacheverell was presented to it.[1]

On the 29th May, 1713, Sacheverell was appointed by the House of Commons to preach before them at S. Margaret's, Westminster, which he did from I. Peter, ii., 16. He was thanked by them for his sermon.[2]

We next hear of the Doctor in October, 1714, when "on the Sunday before the Coronation of King George I., he preached a Sermon at Sutton, near Birmingham, for which he was severely censured" by Tindal.[3]

"The accession of George I. was scarcely acceptable to the County of Shropshire. The result in Shrewsbury was the burning of the Meeting-house in High Street, with the old party cry of 'Down with the Whigs. Sacheverel for Ever.' So firm a hold did the Rector of Selattyn's name still retain in the county."[4]

Dr. Sacheverell's proceedings against Whiston cannot be passed over entirely.

They began at his Trial. It will be remembered that the 3rd Article for which the Doctor was im-

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[1] Browne Willis (Edit. 1801). Quoted from Supp. to Swift's Works, 1799, vol. ii.

[2] Nichols's *Leicestershire*, vol. iii.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Old Shropshire Oak*, vol. iii.

peached was "That the Church of England is in great Peril." One of the books produced to prove this was the "Sermons and Essays of Mr. Whiston," which had been condemned as containing erroneous teaching as to the Trinity.

William Whiston had formerly been Chaplain to Moore, Bishop of Norwich, and was Rector of Lowestoft 1698—1701, which he resigned to be Deputy at Cambridge to Sir Isaac Newton, whom he shortly afterwards succeeded as Lucasian Professor of Mathematics.

He endeavoured to prove that Arianism was the Creed of the Primitive Church until the 4th Century, and challenged Dr. Sacheverell to prove the contrary. His chief works were *An Essay on the Epistles of Ignatius*[1] and *Primitive Christianity Revived.*[2] His books were answered by Dr. Allix and others. His heterodoxy became so notorious that he was deprived of his Professorship and expelled from the University in 1710.[3]

His works were censured by Convocation for Arianism, under Dr. Atterbury in 1711.[4]

In 1718-19, he was living in Hatton Garden, which was in Dr. Sacheverell's parish, and appears to have done his best to annoy the Doctor. Dr. Whiston's own version of the proceedings is as follows :—

Upon Friday, Jan^{ry} 23, 1718, M^{r} Whiston as usual attended the service at S^{t} Andrew's Church, & was permitted peaceably to do so till ab^{t} the middle of the service—M^{r} Bloxam then reading Prayers. But about this time M^{r} Whiston perceived that D^{r} Sach^{l}, who sat in his own seat close by the Desk & Pulpit, & at a great distance from him, stood up, & looked earnestly at him, as if he had a mind to speak or send to him . . . whereupon the Under-Clark, M^{r} Wood, was sent by D^{r} Sach^{l} to warn & Carry him out of the Church . . he

[1] Cambridge, 29 Feb., 1709-10.
[2] In four vols.
[3] *Encyclop. Brit.* (Ed. 1888.)
[4] Smollett, vol. ii., p. 205 (Ed. 1820).

Came to Mr Whiston into his Seat where was his Wife & another Woman, & took him by the Arm & desired or required him to go out of Church for so was his Orders: saying "That it was better to go out peaceably & quietly than to make any disturbance." Mr W. told him that he did not intend to go out of Church; that it was his Parish Church & that he supposed it was lawful for him to come thither . . . that he would not go out of the Church without some legal Authority. At last Dr Sachl called aloud to Mr Whiston two or three times "Go out of my Church, go out of my Church, Mr Whiston." To wh Mr W. replied "That without some Authority he would not go out," whereupon Dr S. came in some Passion out of his Seat & came round very near to Mr W's seat (Dr Humphreys being a little behind him) & said, "I wonder Mr W. you come here when you Deny the Divinity of our Saviour & of the Holy Spirit?" To wh Mr W. made no other answer than this, "That it was his Parish Church, & he hoped he might come & worship God there, & that he would not go out without some legal Authority?" Upon this Dr S. went away & said the Service should cease "& that he would see whether Mr W. or he should govern in that place."

Mrs Humphreys then tried to make peace, to whom the Dr reply'd, "Madam, be pleased to meddle with your own Business." A woman then said to Mr W. "She wondred why he would affront the Rector in such a manner: That he was an old Rogue, & looked like an old Rogue," & a man said "That he had denyed the Divinity of Our Saviour, that he had done a great deal of mischief, & he wondred how he could have the face to stay there & not go out of the Church?"

Dr Sachl & Dr Humphreys then retired to the Vestry, but Mr W. continuing sitting in his seat, the Reader at last resumed the Service & they returned; the Service was no more disturbed & Mr W. stayed till the end.

The Tract further states that "On the Lord's Day following Mr. W. went according to his usual custom to the same Church," when the doorkeepers refused him a seat, so he stood through the morning and evening service.

Dr. Humphreys preached against him, whereupon Mr. Whiston wrote him "a very temperate letter," dated Cross Street, Hatton Garden, S. Paul's Day, 1718-19.

Hearing the doors of the seats were to be locked

against him, Mr. Whiston did not go to Church the rest of the week.[1] He went on Sunday, and had to stand both morning and evening as before.[2]

Doubtless Mr. Whiston describes his own conduct as favourably as possible, and unfortunately we are not in possession of Dr. Sacheverell's version of the affair.

Whiston's life was spent in controversy. In 1721, he wrote to the Earl of Nottingham upon his false views, and in 1747 he finally left the Church of England and became a Baptist. He died in London, 22 Aug., 1752.[3]

But to return to Dr. Sacheverell. He married in June, 1716, Mary ——, the widow of his kinsman George Sacheverell, who, dying in 1715, had left him a considerable estate at Callow in Derbyshire.[4]

During the last years of his life he lived at a house of his own—The Grove, Highgate.[5]

His death appears to have been the result of an accident, as we learn from a News letter, amongst the Rawlinson MSS. at the Bodleian :—

1722-3, Jan^ry 10. Last Monday the Rev^d D^r Sach^l sent a message to the Bp. of Rochester to enquire after his health, & to acquaint his lordship that on Friday last, after having given some Charity money to an indigent family, returning to his own house, he had an unfortunate fall on the stone steps leading to his door, whereby he broke two of his ribs, of which he is in hopes however of doing well.

1722-3, Jan^ry 14. The Rev^d D^r Sach^l is in a fair way of recovery.

1724, June 1. The Rev^d D^r Sach^l is so ill that he is given over by his physicians.[6]

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[1] Mattins was daily at six in winter and seven in summer, Evensong at three; and there was a weekly Eucharist.

[2] Tract entitled, "Mr. Whiston's account of Dr. Sacheverell's Proceedings in order to exclude him from St. Andrew's Church in Holborn." Printed 1719.

[3] *Encyclop. Brit.*

[4] Nichols's *Leicestershire*, vol. iii.

[5] Bloxam, quoted from Prickett's *Hist. of Highgate*, p. 111.

[6] Bloxam.

"He died after a long indisposition, June 5, 1724, at his house in Highgate, and was privately interred on the 11th in the Vault of St. Andrew's Church,"[1] whence his coffin is said to have been stolen.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* tells us that on

Saturday 26 [Sep., 1747] Three men were committed to Wood Street compter, & the sexton and grave digger of S[t] Andrew's, Holborn, to Newgate, for stealing 150 leaden Coffins out of that Church, amongst them that of D[r] Sacheverell.[2]

The Doctor wrote his own Epitaph, which was revised by Bishop Atterbury, and so forbade the placing of any inscription on his tomb :—

Sepulchrale hoc Elogium
Henricus Sacheverell. S. T. P. scripsit,
Et ipse fermè moribundus,
Nec postea quidquam Scripturus.
Istos nimirum honores dulcissimo amico
persolutos voluit;
Quibus in Supremus tabulis
interdixit sibi.[3]

Sacheverell lived at a time when monumental tablets were a record of fulsome flattery. That he desired none such was surely a refutation of the charge of vanity, brought against him by his enemies.

Over the vault in the chancel of St. Andrew's is simply the following statement—

Infra jacet Honricus Sacheverell S. T. P. hujusce Ecclesiæ Rector.[4]

His will is as follows[5] :—

In the Name of God Amen. I Henry Sacheverell D.D. of S[t] Andrew's Holborne do make this my last will & Testament hereby revoking & annulling all former & other will & wills by me at any time heretofore made.

Imprimis. I do commend my soul to my gracious and mercifull Creator & Redeemer hoping through his merits for

[1] Nichols.
[2] *Notes and Queries*, 25 Oct., 1890.
[3] Nichol.
[4] Bloxam.
[5] Somerset House, Will Romney, 180.

pardon of all my sins & a joyful Resurrection of my body which I desire may be buried with all privacy in my vault at S. Andrew's Church with no other Inscription but this set upon a Plain Marble underneath the Communion Table viz^{t} (Infra jacet Henricus Sacheverell. S. T. P. hujuscæ Ecclesiæ Rector obijt) with the Addition of the month & year when it shall please God I shall dye, & I do hereby subject & charge all my real & personal Estate whatsoever to & with the payment of all my just debts w^{h} I shall owe at the time of my decease & also to pay to my sister Susanna Banner what shall remaine due to her or her husband as was agreed upon their Marriage Also I do will & desire that my Estate & lands lying in or near the Parish of Wildon in the County of Bedford may be sold for payment of my Debts & to that use I do devise all my said Estate & lands in or near Wildon aforesaid & all my Interest therein to Charles Chambers[1] & Thomas Bayly both of the Parish of S^{t} Andrew Holborne Gents & to the Survivour of them & to the heirs of the Survivour In trust that out of the Rents & Profits of the said Estate till sale, or by the moneys arising out of the Sale thereof when Sold, they or the Survivor of them do pay my said Debts & I do hereby give & devise the surplus of the money arising by the said Estate in or near Wildon to my dearest wife Mary Sacheverell her executors, Administrators & Assigns, but my Will & Desire is that the said M^{r} Charles Chambers & Thomas Bayly & the Survivor of them & the heir of the Survivor be allowed all such costs, charges & Expenses out of the said Estate as they or either of them shall be at any ways relating to the trust so reposed in them & for the more speedy sale of the Said Estate I do request & desire my said dear wife to joyn in the Sale thereof, she having an Estate for life therein & to sell such life Estate. Also I do further will & devise all my Estate & Interest in the Mannor of Callow a'ls Cawley & Lands & Premisses in the Co. of Derby to the said Charles Chambers & Thomas Bayly & the Survivour of them & to the heir of the Survivour in Trust that they or the Survivour of them or the heir of such Survivour do sell the same & out of the money arising by such Sale or out of the rents & profits of the said Estate till sale thereof raise & pay the sume of £200 to the President & Scholars of S^{t} Mary Magdalen College at Oxford; to be disposed of by the said President & Scholars as they shall think fit & afterwards to raise & pay the further

[1] "An attorney near Hatton Garden who mar. the rich relict of Dr. Sacheverell." *Gentlemen's Magazine* p. 275.

sum of £200 to the Rev^d M^r Joseph Trapp & then to pay the surplus, rents & profits of the said Estate in the said Co. of Derby or money ariseing by Sale thereof as aforesaid after payment of the said two severall sums of £200 to or to the use & benefit of my said dear wife, her Executors, administrators & Assigns. And whereas I have lately purchased a Copyhold Messuage or Tenement with a garden & appurtenances at Highgate held of the Mannor of Cantlers[1] w^h I have surrendered to the use of my will, now I devise & give the said Messuage & Tenement with its Appur^ts to my said dear wife Mary Sach^l & her heirs for ever. Also I give to the said M^r Trapp my Books & I do desire him to see all my writings & Compositions (except what are published or ordered in my lifetime to be so) destroyed. Also I do give to the said Charles Chambers & Thomas Bayly a Legacy of £50 apeice & I do also give & bequeath unto the said M^r Thomas Bayly my Gold Watch & Saphir Ring, & lastly I do give & bequeath unto my said dear wife all the rest & residue of my real & personal Estate whatsoever to the use of my said dear wife her heirs, executors & Administrators & do hereby make & appoint my said dear wife sole executrix of this my will, desiring the said M^r Chambers & M^r Bayley to assist her therein. In Witness whereof I have hereto set my hand & seal this tenth Feb. 1723.

H. Sacheverell, signed & sealed.

Witnesses John Abbot, Joseph Sayer, & Thomas Burnet.

Codicil. That my dear wife Mary Sach^l shall have & enjoy all such books & manuscripts as she usually kept in her own possession, & that she shall be at liberty to choose such & so many out of my other books as she shall think proper for her own benefit or use & whereas I have not in my said Will made any mention of my servants or such of them as shall live with me at the time of my decease, & the reason why I have not done so is in regard I think proper to recommend them to my said wife to give unto them or any of them so much or reward them in such manner as she after my decease in her discretion shall think fit, & save as aforesaid I do hereby ratify and confirm all & whatsoever is contained in my said

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[1] Now called Cantlowes. Loftie's *Hist. of London*, vol. ii., Appen. E. "The Prebendal Manors of S. Paul's." Cantlers is the 10th stall on the right side. Probably named after Roger Cantelupe, or Cantlow, prebend 1249."

Will. In Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seal this 28 May, 1724. H. Sacheverell.

Witnesses, Mary Simmonds, Thomas Bayly.
Proved, Will & Codicil, London, 3 August 1725, P. C. C. by Mary Sacheverell, widow.

The portrait of Sacheverell now in Magdalen College Hall was bequeathed to the College by William Clements, Vicar of South Brent, Lecturer of S. Stephen's, Walbrook, and S. Benet, Sherehog, in 1742, and Librarian of Sion College, where he died, 8 April, 1799.

He was the son of Henry Clements of the Half Moon in S. Paul's Churchyard, bookseller, who published Sacheverell's sermons.

With this imperfect sketch we must leave the only Rector of Selattyn who won for himself a place in English history.

SACHEVERELL PEDIGREE.[1]

. . . Cheverel = . . . dau. of Courtney.

William Cheverel of Chantmarle, and East Stoke, Co. Dorset. = Joan, d. and coheir of John Chantmarle.

Walter Cheverel, ob. 22 Edw. IV. (escheat). = Christian, d. of Henry Russell of Berwick.

John Cheverel, ob. 2 Hen. VII. (escheat). = Margaret, d. of John Wykes of Bindon, Co. Dorset.

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[1] From Hutchins' *Dorset*, (3rd ed.), i., p. 414; Nichols' *Leicestershire*, vol. iii., pt. 1, p. 510 *Visit. Dorsetshire*, 1623. Harl. Soc., vol. xx., p 81.

a

Roger Cheverel leased tenements in Stoke Hyde, 3 Hen. VII.

= Anne, or Agnes, d. and coheir of Thomas Raves of Ditchford Media, Co. Worc., by Elizabeth, d. of David Brayles, by Agnes, d. and coheir of Urian de St. Pierre.[1]

Nicholas Cheverel of Owre Moyne, o. s. p. 1548.

= Jane, d. of John Gawen of Northington, Co. Wilts, ob. 1548.

4 mar. daus., 1 a nun.

Christopher Cheverel of Chantmarrell,[2] ob. s.p. 1572.

= Isabel, d. and heir of William Wotton of Barton Davy, Co. Somerset, or . . . . Walton of Walton, Co. Somerset.

3 mar. daus., 1 a nun.

Christopher Sacheverell o.s.p.

Hugh Sacheverell of Chantmarrell.

= Anne, d. of . . . Deering.

Christopher o.s.p.

= Anne, d. of . . Fitton.

William. Hugh. St. John.

Robert Sacheverell of Barton, Co. Dorset.

= d. of . . . Guppic.

John Sacheverell of Buckland, Co. Dorset, living 1623.[3]

= Anne, d. of Thos. Jessop of Chilcomb, Co. Dorset.

Christopher

= . . . . d. of . . . . Williams of Tina, Co. Dorset.

A son and dau.

John Sacheverell, Rector of East Stoke, 1615-1651, Rector of Langton Maltravers, Co. Dorset, 1644, ob. 25 April, 1651.

= Deborah, d. of . . . . Dale.

John Sacheverell, born 1613, S. John's Coll., Oxford, presented to Rectory of Brimpton, Co. Somerset, by Bishop of Winchester, which he quitted before the Restoration, and afterwards obtained the Chapelry of Wincanton, Co, Somerset.

= 1st wife, . . . d. of John Smith the regicide.
2nd wife, ... d. of William Harvey of Langton in Purbeck. (2 sons).
3rd wife, . . . d. of . . . Hussey of Shaftesbury, widow of Henry Derby, attorney, o.s.p.

b

Theophilus. Timothy. Philologus. Anne.

[1] *Visit. Shrop.*, p. 425.
[2] The first mentioned in *Visit. Dorset.*
[3] He entered Ped. at *Visit. Dorset.*, 1623.

b

Joshua Sacheverell, King's Coll. and St. Catherine's Hall, Camb., B.A. 1667, Rector S. Peter's, Marlborough. = ... living in 1711.

- Henry Sacheverell, D.D., born 1674, mar. 1716, died 5 bur. 11 June, 1724, o.s.p. = Mary, widow of George Sacheverell of Callow and of New Hall, Co. Warwick, Esq. She mar. thirdly Charles Chambers of Holborn, gent., who died 20 May, 1749, aged 88. She d. 6 Sep., 1739, aged 75, and was bur. at S. George's, Bloomsbury.
- a son appren. to a London mercer, d. young.

- Thomas, appren. to attorney at Beaconsfield, lived extravagantly, d. abroad.
- a dau. d. young.
- Susanna lived at Worcester. = . . . Banner.

HISTORY OF SHREWSBURY HUNDRED OR LIBERTIES.

By the late Rev. JOHN BRICKDALE BLAKEWAY, M.A., F.S.A.
Edited by the Rev. W. G. D. FLETCHER, M.A., F.S.A.

Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. VI., p. 414.

MEOLE BRACE.

Eddid held Melam in the Confessor's time. The Norman commissioners are so succinct in their descriptions, and so unceremonious with respect to the most exalted personages of the Saxon period, that there is some reason to believe that under this brief designation is intended Queen Edith, that monarch's consort. The grounds for this opinion will be stated under the article of Cleobury Mortimer, which with Kinlet in that neighbourhood, and Pulley in this, had been also the property of this Eddid, and were become, by the time that Domesday was compiled, a part of the possessions of the powerful Ralph de Mortimer,[1] a near kinsman, and distinguished favourite of the Conqueror. The description of this manor in that Survey runs thus :—

The same Ralph holds Melam in the hundred of Sciropisberie: Eddid held it: Three hides are rated to the Dane geld: The demesne consists of three carucates;[2] and three carucates are

[1] [Queen Edith's estate near Shrewsbury, consisting of Meole, Edgebold, and a great part of Pulley, had probably passed from her hands to those of William fitz Osborn, Earl of Hereford, had been forfeited by his son Earl Roger de Bretolio in 1074, and had then been granted by King William to Ralph de Mortimer. *Cf.* Eyton, vi., 350.—Ed.]

[2] [Not *carucates* in this and the two following places, but *ox-teams*.—Ed.]

occupied by six servants, four female servants, six villeins, and three bordars: besides, half a carucate is holden by one radman. Six burgesses in the city are regardant to this manor. Here is a mill of the annual value of 20^{s}.

The manor was valued in the reign of the Confessor at £7, but at the time of the survey at £13 5s. 6d.

The church of St. Mary of Shrewsbury was possessed of a virgate (sixty acres) of land in this manor, during the Saxon times, and continued to hold it when Domesday was compiled. It was valued at 4s. at both these periods[1].

As the Mortimer family was not implicated in the revolt of Robert de Belesme, they appear in the very confined list of those Shropshire proprietors who continued to hold their estates in an uninterrupted series from the time of the Norman Conquest, and Hugh de Mortimer, who died in 1185, 32 Hen. II. (the son of Ralph, the first possessor), granted the advowson of Meoles Bracy (so the name is written in the chronicle of Wigmore priory preserved by Dugdale) to the canons of that house.

The part of that chronicle which relates to this donation was written, I conceive, about the beginning of the thirteenth century; and the manor had then, we see, obtained the distinctive appellation which it still retains: how much earlier it had received that addition I have not found. The name Brace is derived from the family of Bracy: of whom Aldulphus de Braci, apparently a kinsman of Fulke fitz Warin,[2] attested that nobleman's foundation charter to Alberbury priory (Ashmol. MSS., 461, 462); and another of the same name, son of the former, lived in 9 Joh., 1207

[1] [Nothing further is known of St. Mary's virgate in the manor of Meole. The Church may have surrendered or exchanged the land. *Cf.* Eyton vi., 359.—Ed.]

[2] See the Gestes of Guarine and his sons in the 1st vol. of Leland Coll., in which the connection of Bracy and Fitz Warin is conspicuous. In the *Testa de Nevill*, Robert de Bracy holds one hide in Hallefest of the see of Worcester.

(Dodsworth MSS., p. 140, Leland Collect., v. 234), and in 1241, when he witnesses a grant by Odo de Hodnet to the Abbey of Shrewsbury. He held this manor under the Mortimers,[1] and I presume aspired to hold it independent of that family, for in the former of those years, from Easter term at the end of the 9th of John to Trinity at the beginning of the 10th of that King (1207-8), Roger de Mortimer demanded against Audulf de Brasei the manor of Moles, whereof his (Mortimer's) ancestors have been seised from the time of the Conquest of England, as well as in the time of King Henry the grandfather (Henry I.) as afterwards to the time of King Henry the father (Henry II.), in whose time Hugh de Mortimer, father of the demandant, was seised. (Dodsworth's Collect., vol. 94, fo. 36.) I have not seen the result of this suit[2], but it evidently ended in establishing the superiority of Mortimer, under whom the great family of Cantilupe appears to have enjoyed one moiety of the manor.[3] In 19 Hen. III. (1235)

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[1] [Eyton thinks that, in Mortimer's hands, Edgebold and a great part of Pulley became so involved in Meole that all three manors were occasionally described as Meole. Hugh de Mortimer of Wigmore was seised of this collective manor of Meole in 1155, but subsequently enfeoffed William Martel, a knight, therein. William Martel gave the manor to Audulf de Braci, upon whose death Roger de Mortimer, son and heir of Hugh, seised upon Meole as his own demesne. *Ibid*, 350-1.—Ed.]

[2] [The litigation lasted from April, 1203, to January, 1211. In 1208 William de Cantilupe, the King's Seneschal, put in a claim to the manor. The result was that a fine was levied in January, 1211, between Roger de Mortimer and Audulf de Braci (son of Audulf named above), in which Roger recognizes Audulf's right to the manor, but so that William de Cantlup shall hold the whole manor under Roger at the service of a knight's fee, and Audulf shall hold under William de Cantlup a moiety of the manor at the service of half a knight's fee, but not the capital messuage which Cantlup was to hold. For this fine, Cantlup paid Mortimer 300 marks. There seems to have been some treachery on Cantilupe's part. This transaction, however, held good for ages. The whole proceedings are carefully given in Eyton vi., 350-5. It should be noted that Cantilupe's first wife was Mascelina, daughter of the first Audulf de Braci.—Ed.]

[3] [At the Assizes of November, 1221, Gilbert de Moles, Roger

W^m de Cantelow answered for his fees in Shropshire by y^e hands of William reeve of *Mole. (Testa de Nevill).* In the escheats of 1 Edward I. (1273) is an Inquisition and extent of the lands and tenements which belonged to George de Cantelupo in the manor of Melesbracy, taken there Tuesday the feast of St. Lucy the virgin (December 13th), 2 Edward I., by which he is found to have died seised of a moiety thereof. The jurors upon this occasion were Roger de Pudeslawe, Richard de Ottenye, William Marscot, Engelard Forester of Poleley, *Adulph de Bracy*, Ranulf de Harpecote, Alan Sprenehose, John le Fraunceis, William de Tirlwoode, William de la Lake, Roger de Yarton, and Nicholas de Wodecote, gentlemen or yeomen chiefly of the vicinity.[1]

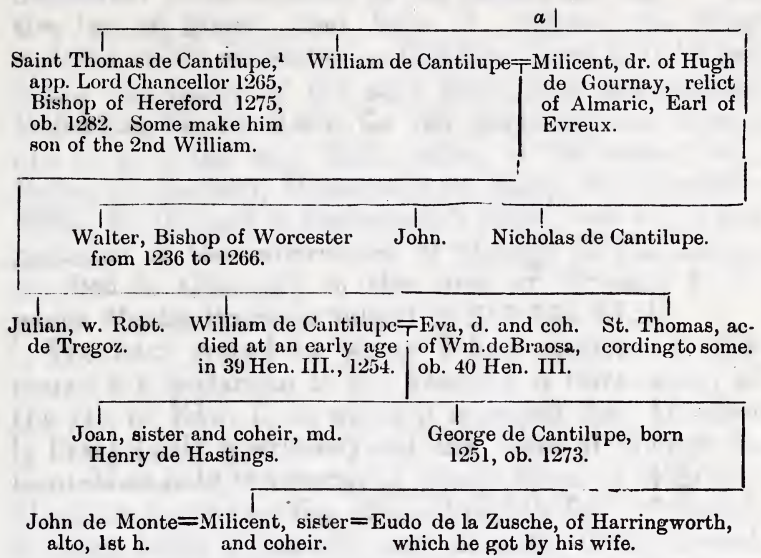
William de Cantilupe,[2] governor of Pulverbatch Castle 1 John, ob. 23 Hen. III., 1239. = Sibil, w. of Geoffrey Pauncefote.
a

Sergeant of Meola, and William Provost of Meeles are mentioned. The last occurs in 1235 as an officer of Cantilupe's (*Cf.* Assize Roll, 6 Hen. III., m. 1; *Testa de Nevill*, p. 61). In 1240, William de Cantilupe is recorded as holding Meeles under Ralph de Mortimer, by one knight's fee (*Testa de Nevill*, p. 45). In 1254, Henry III. grants free-warren to Robert de Cantilupe, who held under William, in all his demesnes at Meules (Rot. Vascon, 38 Hen. III., p. 2, m. 8). In 1262, John de Bracy of Mele occurs as dead. At the Assizes of 1267, William de Horton was found to have disseised Audulf de Bracy of six acres in Moles. *Cf.* Eyton vi., 356-7.—Ed.]

[1] [This Inquisition states that there was a fortified dwelling, called a Tower, at Meole, and other buildings very poor. The demesne lands realized £1 9s. 4d. per annum. The boscs of Hanleg and Haywode, though within the manor, were also within the forest. (*Cf.* Inquis. p. m. 32 Edw. I., no. 63b.)

On George de Cantilupe's death, the manor of Meole went to his sister Milicent, wife of Eudo la Zouche. In 1280 Milicent, then a widow, mpleaded Audulf de Bracy for half a knight's fee in Melesbracy. On the death of Edmund de Mortimer, it was found that William de la Zouche held a knight's fee in Meoles of the deceased. *Cf.* Eyton vi., 357.—Ed.]

[2] [William de Cantilupe's first wife was Mascelina, daughter of the first Audulf de Bracy.—Ed.]



A MS. in Dugdale's Warwickshire (art. Grey Friars of Coventry), apparently of the best authority, represents St. Thomas as brother of Ioan, the wife of Henry de Hastings; yet I see not how this can possibly be. George de Cantilupe, the eldest son of the third William, was not born till 1251, and fourteen years afterwards we find St. Thomas (who according to the supposition of the record in Dugdale must have been his younger brother) appointed to the office of Lord Chancellor.[2]

Eudo la Zusche, who married the co-heiress, was a younger son of Alan de Zusche of Ashby, descended from the counts of Bretagne—and, as his wife appears to have had no issue by her first husband, the property

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[1] [St. Thomas de Cantelupe, who was born circa 1218, and died 1282, was a son of William de Cantelupe, second baron, and Milicent de Gournay. See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*—Ed.]

[2] *Ibid.*

descended to the children of her second marriage. On the 1st of March, 2nd Edw. I., 1273-4, the King certifies to his escheator on this side Trent that he has taken the fealty of the said Eudo who has married Melisenta, &c., as above, for her purparty, and directs him to give the said Eudo seizin of the same; viz., Eyton co. Bedford, Molesbracy co Salop, &c. (Dugdale MSS., B. 1) ; and in Dodsworth's MSS., vol. 71, is the partition of the inheritance of George de Cantelupo, enrolled in Chancery in the time of Edward I., in which Meoles Bracie is valued at £13 19s. 8d.ob.

The next record in which I find mention of this manor is a feodarium of the hundred of Shrewsbury of the 7th of Edw. I., in which it is stated that Audulph le Bracy (so it is written) and the heirs of George de Cantelowe hold the manor of Meole Brace of Roger de Mortimer by the service of one knight's fee. Audulph le Bracy holds in demesne one carucate of the annual value of forty shillings, and one mill and a half of the annual value of 25s., also possessions in Pulley, Newbold, and Newton (which will be inserted under their proper heads), and the heir of Cantelowe has half the manor of Mola, where is a carucate in demesne, and a mill, and possessions in Pulley, &c., as above.

From the tenour of these extracts it is nearly certain that Braci and Cantilupe were the heirs general of some family who held this manor under the Mortimers at an earlier period, but every memorial of such prior family has hitherto eluded all my enquiries.

In 40 Edw. III. (1366) Agnes, widow of Robert Bracy of Meole Bracy, conveys lands here to Philip de Lanelye, vicar of St. Alkmund, and another chaplain feoffee. (Bowen's MSS.)

In 12 Edw. III. (1338) there was a fine between Robert Bracy and Agnes his wife, complainants, and Roger de Aston, chaplain, deforciant, of a moiety of the manor of Meolebracy. It is acknowledged to be the right of Roger, who grants it to Robert and Agnes in tail, remainder to John, son of Thomas Colle, in fee.

The Zouches appear in process of time to have acquired the whole of this manor, for in a Calendar of all the knight's fees which belonged to Edmund de Mortimer, late Earl of March (the third Earl), taken in 1414 (Harl. MSS., 704), one knight's fee is enumerated in Melers Bracy, which William de Souche holds, and which is extended to the value of 100s.; and in the following year, 3 Hen. V., the Inquisition after the death of William la Zouche finds that he died the 3rd day of November last past, seised of the manor of Meole Bracy, leaving his son and heir, William, aged 13 years. (Dugd. MSS., A. 1, in Ashm. Lib.) By an Inquisition *ad quod Damnum* of 7 Hen. V. it is found that William la Zouche held on the day of his death *a moiety* of the manor of Mulbracy in his demesne as of fee, valued at £18 a year. In the 10th year of the same King, however, John Holland, Earl of Huntingdon, and William Carnoll, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife (late wife of William la Zouch, lord of Meole Brace), were joint lords of this manor, and held a court here, on the Friday after St. Barnabas. I can give no account of this joint-tenancy.

La Zouch was one of those sobriquets or nick-names which great men assumed when they set forth on a pilgrimage to Palestine. Mauduit (Ill-taught), Plantagenet (Broom-stalk), &c., were of this number. The ostensible motive to this was a principle of religious humility: but it was also of use to conceal their quality, and so to keep down the price of their ransom in case they were taken prisoners. Zouch is the stock or body of a tree. Moliere makes Arnulphe, in the *School for Wives*, call himself Monsr. de la Souche, from an old trunk of a tree on his estate.

> Et d'un vieux tronc pourri de votre metairie
> Vous faire dans le monde un nom de seigneurie.—A. 1, S. 1.

The noble possessors of Meole probably intended under this humble designation to imply that they were of the old stock, *de la Souche*, of the Counts of Bretagne.

Eudo la Zouche, of Harringworth = Milicent Cantilupe.

- William la Zouche of full age = Maud Lovel. — 1299, summoned to Parliament 1323, ob. 1351.
- Eva, w. of Maurice de Berkeley.
- Elizabeth, w. of Nicholas Poyntz.

Eudo la Zouche, ob. v.p. 1325, in which year he killed = Joan Inge.
Roger le Beler of Leicestershire.

William, Lord Zouche, = Elizabeth Ross, her will
b. 1321, ob. 1381. dated 1408.

- William, Lord Zouche = . . . — b. 1341, ob. 1395.
- Alan la Zouch.
- Thomas la Zouch of Ightham, co. Kent, ob. 1406.
- Edmund.

William, Lord Zouche, = Elizabeth, dr. . . . . .
b. 1375 ob. 1415. md. secondly, Wm. Carnoll, Esq.

William, Lord Zouche, b. 1402, ob. 1462. = Alice St. Maur.

- William, Lord Zouche and St. Maur, ob. 1466. = Catharine Leinthall.
- Sir John Zouche ancestor of the Zouches of Codner, co. Derby.
- Margaret, w. of Sir Thos. Tresham.
- Elizabeth.

John, Lord Zouch and St. Maur, b. 1458, = Joan Dinham,
attainted 1 Hen. VII., restored, ob. 1526.

John, Lord Zouch and St. Maur and Cantilupe, ob. 1550.
A court was holden for the Manor of Meole Bracy in his name, Oct. 7, 24 Hen. VIII.

In the beginning of the reign of Hen. V., a Mr. Venables, in the right of his wife, held land in the manor of Meole under the Lord Zouch : for among the rolls of Bailiffs' Accounts in the Exchequer of Shrewsbury is one, of which it is difficult to conceive how it has found its way into that repository, entitled, " Visus compoti Rogeri Skyle capellani, Resceptoris Willelmi Venables & Isabell uxoris sue de terris & tenementis infra libertatem ville Salop & com' ejusdem de anno r. r. Henrici 5^{ti} post conquestum primo & incipiente

secundo, in which after the receipts of rents[1] in Shrewsbury and the suburbs, amounting to £16 17s. 1½d., and of rents of Meolebracy, Neuton, Neubold, and Egebaldenham, amounting to £7 5s. 6d., and of William Wolascote, farmer, of Lynches, 33s. 4d., follow the payments and allowances, amounting to £22 7s. 8½d., among which is 12d. paid to lord de la Suche for rent of Assise of Meole & 2d. for parchment for the court of Meole.

Among these is :—

Paid to the abbot of Salop for Frydes forlong 2ˢ 6 To Robert Trentham pro dimid' toga empt' Johanni Perle 6ˢ 5ᵈ

Solut' Johanni Dun pro alia dimid' ejusd' toga 6ˢ

[Why Mr. Venables should purchase half a gown at one shop, and the remainder at another, does not appear.]

For hedging (clausura) a garden in Mardesoll 7ᵈ

Making a gate at le Conyngyorde 4ᵈ

Expen' Will'i Arthour & aliorum de servientibus domini venient' ad Salop super negotium domini per diversas vices . . 12ᵈ

Pro cariagio graminis usq' ad Blasebarne de Wyne milhull 5ᵈ

Solut' Agneti Tour pro cervisio de se empto ad usum domine 18ˢ

Pro pargameno empt' per Johannem Schrardyn pro curia de Meole 2ᵈ

Pro pastura unius equi in parco de Schrawardyn 12ᵈ

Solut' Abbati de Hagmond pro redditu de Sturyesoles 3ˢ 10ᵈ

Johi Glouere pro speciebus (spices) emptis domine 12ᵈ

Vriano Senitpiare 6ˢ 8ᵈ

Pro sirpis emptis pro aula in adventu domini 3ᵈ

Pro pise & coda empt' sumtu domini 2ᵈ

Solut' domine quos ipsa solvit pro debito suo apud Salop 6ˢ 8ᵈ

Pro reparacione domorum d'ni in Colneham 3ˢ 10ᵈ

Pro cirothecisempt' domine 1ᵈob.

Pro cariacione fimi ad Sabrinam 4ᵈ [I suppose the emptying of a privy.]

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[1] Among these are, of the abbot of Salop for rent of part of a garden in Colneham 40ˢ. Of the vicars of Sᵗ Mary's for a tenement in Ratonslow—there is no sum set opposite to this item. Ratonslow is now the School lane. De Reginaldo de Mutton pro termino sancti Michaelis solut' pro 1 bovic' (?) 7ᵈ vel unu' bovic' ad electionem domini. This is Raynold Mytton, the ancestor of the present family.

Pro falcacione de Sturiesoles 2s 8d

Pro expensis domini in essentia sua apud Salop. videlicit in pane, vino, cervis' & carnibus emptis eodem tempore 30s 6d

Pro pane vino cervic' carnibus, prebend' equorum, & aliis rebus emptis in essentia domine apud Salop 45s 8d ob.

Pro tabula Thome servientis domini custodientis placeam domini apud Salop 9d

Solut' servientibus pro mundacione placie d'ni in adventu domine 2d

Solut' pro expens' Willi Arthour & Marton & aliorum apud Salop de servientibus domini in adventu Justiciar' domini Regis 2s 4d

Solut' pro pilio [perhaps a hat] empt' magistro tuo de Roberto Horsley 2s 6d

Pro tabula Thome servientis domini magistri sui apud Salop 9s a festo nativitate sancti Johannis Bap't'e usque festo Sancti Michaelis Archangli, viz. pro qualibet septime 9d

Pro factura ferri apud Sturysoldes 4s 9d

Sol' pro redd' de Sturiesolds ballivis ville Salop 1d

Pro antiquo debito domino Hans Goldsmyth 20s [I suppose a Fleming settled at Shrewsbury.]

Pro 1 equo locat' equitandi usque cestriam quando districtio capta fuit per duas vices 20d [There is frequent mention of hiring horses to Chester, marking the residence of this gentleman and lady in that county. They appear to have been much in debt, and to have lived beyond their means. Hence perhaps the distress just mentioned.]

Abbati Salop pro redditu de Fridayes forlong 3s 6d

Pro cariagio fimi ad Sabrinam quum Dominus Furnyvale fuit ibidem 3d [This was, I suppose, the famous John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, who appears to have made use of the house of Mr. Venables, during some visit to this town.]

Pro reparacone domus magistri sui apud Mardesole 12d

Pro stipendio 1 equi ad Edlaston per iii dies Rogero Skyle computant ad negoc' magistri sui 12d

Pro mundacione fimi exo'poito aule magistri sui 4d

Pro cariacione spinar' & trowys ad claudend' sepes magistri sui apud sturyes clos & colneham & pro clausura eorundem 2s 10d

Sol' domine apud Edlaston 6s 8d

Ricardo Ellesmere corvis' pro sotularibus emptis domine & Willelmo Arthur & aliis 3s 4d

[On the back of the roll are receipts de Joh'e Schraward ballivo de Mulbracy, Newton, Neubald, &c.]

Received de Rob'to Lee de Uffynton 7s 6d

Solut' pro magistro suo collectoribus tax' domini Regis in ville Sal' 6s 3d

Pro speciebus & 1 speculo 8d

On Thursday before the exaltation of the cross, 7 Hen. VII. (14th Sept., 1491), William Worthynton, esquire, as attorney to Robert Plumpton, knight, son and heir of William Plumpton, knight, delivered seisin of this manor with all the lands and tenements, &c., thereunto belonging, to Elizabeth Worthynton, widow, one of the daughters of Katherine, formerly daughter of William Plumpton, knight, and on the morning of the Friday after Michaelmas following, John Browne of Worfeld entered upon the said manor. (Lib. A. in Scacc., Salop.)[1]

(See Lyson's *Derbyshire*, p. 146.)

Sir Wm. Plumpton

Sir Robt. Plumpton — Catherine, w. . . .

Elizabeth, w. . . . Worthington

20 Dec., 10 Eliz. (1567), Edward Waturs of Salop gent. demises to Richd Owen of the same, mercer, for £30 for 21 years at a rent of throthene shillings & 4d a leasow called Kenteseye lying between a lane called Theves lane & the water called Meole water within the liberties of Shrewsbury & now holden by Thomas Burnell, draper.

In a deed of the preceding year it is described to lye betwyn one lane leadynge from Meole fyld to the ferme ground of Sotton, which lane is commonly called Theves lane on their syde & meole brocke on the other syde, & extendynge in leinthe from a season fyld of Meole Brace, &c.

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[1] Cantilupe left to Zouch, sold to Mackworth, sold to Edwards. In 1418, John Arthur occurs lord of Brace-meole; in 17 Edw. IV., 1477, Richd. Arthur occurs lord of Clopton and Brace-meole; in 1491, Plumpton and Worthington; in 1516, Richd. Hosey; in 1585, Richd. Grosvenor sells to Judge Owen, who sold in 1590 to Thos. Sherer, who sold in 1601 to Thos. Newport, who sold in 1601 to Berrington. This I take to be Bracy's manor.

27 Apr., 27 Eliz. (1585), Richard Gravenor,[1] otherwise Grosvenor, of Sholer in com' Salop, Esq., sells to Thomas Owen of Lincoln's Inn in fee the manor or lordship of Brace Meole, with all lands, rents, services, &c., also the woods called Heyward coppice, Handley coppice, and Gittins coppice,—three messuages, lands, &c., in or near Shrewsbury, holden by the bailiffs of that town, and all other lands, &c., in the town, parishes, fields, or hamlet of Shrewsbury, Meole Brace, Pulley, Newbold, and Cruck Meole.

18 May, 32 Eliz., Mr. Owen,[2] then serjeant-at-law, reciting that he was seised of the above premises in fee, and Thomas Shearer, gent., reciting that he was seised in fee of the manor of Oke, co. Salop, and of several messuages lying in the township, village, or hamlet of Oke,—and the said parties reciting that they had agreed that Owen should convey to Shearer the premises bought by him from Gravenor (except Heyward coppice and a tenement in Salop lately holden by one Wm. Weale) until he, Shearer, had paid Owen £1040,—It was now agreed, that they should levy a fine of the manor and lands in Meole Brace, &c., and in Oke, &c., to Langley and Cam, and that they the said conusees should render back to Owen an annual rent of £69,—and to Shearer the manors, &c., in fee, with a proviso that for every £100 paid by Shearer to Owen in his lifetime, £6 13s. 4d. of the annuity should cease, and so for every £100 of the £1,040.

21 Oct., 41 Eliz., "In cons'on of £1260, Gerard Shearer of the Oakes gent. covenants to convey the manors of Oke and Brace Meole to Francis Newport Esq[r] of High Ercall [and William Wolley gent. and the heirs of Newport] subject to the payment of the annuity of £69 to Roger Owen Esq[r] of Lincolns Inn."

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[1] Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas Gravenor, married William Mackworth.

[2] Judge Owen, in his will, 1595, mentions "one Annuall rent of Threscore & nyne pounds yssueing out of the Manor Lands & Ten'ts of Meole Brace, Pulley, & other things in the said County."

Same date. Articles between Mr Newport, and Thomas Berrington gent. of Moathall reciting the last mentioned articles: it is agreed that Newport and Wolley should (within 6 months after Shearer should levy a fine of Oakes and Brace Meole) assign over to Berrington the manor of Brace Meole and the premises in Pulley Newbold and Cruckmeole in fee: in consideration of which Berrington covenants to exonerate the Oaks from the £69 annuity, and to lay it upon Brace Meole, &c., and his capital messuage of Moathall in ye p'sh of Pontesbury: and on a tenement in great Hanwood.

16 Nov., 41 Eliz., Gilbert Shearer conveys the manor of Okes otherwise Hooks, formerly the estate of his father Thomas,—and the manor and premises of Brace Meole, &c., to Newport and Woolley and the heirs of Newport.

In 1642 this annuity of £69 belonged to Sir William Owen of Condover, Knt., who then settled it on his second son Edward in fee.

In 1734 it belonged to William Owen, Esq., who then granted it to Corbet Kynaston, Esq., in trust for the use of himself and Anne, his wife, for their lives, remainder to the heirs of his body, and in default of such issue, remainder to the vicar of Condover for ever.

At the court of John Holand, Earl of Huntingdon, and Wm. Cornell, Esq., and Eliz., his wife, relict of Wm. la Zouche, lord of Meole Bracy, 10 Hen. V., the warden of the fraternity of the holy cross in the church of St. Alkmund was presented for lands in Meole called Prydesland, in the holding of Roger Mutton: as were the prior of St. John Baptist, Frankvile, and the vicar of St. Alkmund: Agnes de Peynton was presented for Peynton: John Perle was amerced 12d. for enclosing Gamelesfeld.

At a court holden Tuesday before St. John ante portam Latinam, 6 Hen. VI., John Conway of Peynton and Agnes, his wife, were amerced 2d. for non-appearance, and John Perle 12d. for keeping enclosed

Gameslesfeld and Priors close, which ought to be common from Michaelmas to Candlemas for 2 years: and y^e 3d year common from the time of carrying the hay to Michaelmas.

In the 35th of Eliz., Thomas Sherer, Esq., was lord of this manor; a little court and court baron being held by Richard Kalywell, gent., steward thereof, on the 23rd of May in that year. At this court it was presented that Anne Shearer, widow, had day at the last court to make a gate at the newe field, which she had not yet done, and the penalty is ordered to be levied. John Francke had day at the last court to repair his house, and the penalty is ordered to be levied. John Dager of Condover is amerced for fishing in the water of the lord. "Item presentant quod Arthurus Griffithes custod' & ligabat boves & vaccas suas & alia averia & catall' sua in camp' venal' in Anglie' did keepe and tye his beasts and cattells in the corne filds ad nocument' vicinorum suorum, ideo in misericordia domini 2^s 6^d." John Shearer, clerk, is amerced the same sum for a like offence.

At a court of John, lord Zouche and Seynt More, 7 Oct., 24 Hen. VIII. (1532), John Waters, gent., and Wm. Sherer are presented for houses out of repair: Richd. Blore for overcharging the common with cattle: George, Earl of Shrewsbury, for detaining 19s. 10d. which the lord of Mule used to have from the town of Edgebould.

Nevertheless, in the 7th of Hen. VIII., Richard Hosey was lord here: for then a precept issued from the Crown to Thos. Cornwayle, Knt., Sheriff of Shropshire, wherein reciting that it was found by an inquisition taken at Bridgenorth Tuesday after Easter in the said 7th year, before Sir Thos. Blunt, Knt., and others Justices of the Peace, that "Oliver Kynaston late of Mule Brasie gent, Tho. Kynaston late of Shrewsbury gent, Edw. Persys late of the same laborer, David Dee late of Powys in the march of Wales taylor, W^m Noryse late of Mule aforesaid myles (qu. miller)

Tho^{s} Norrice late of the same laborer, W^{m} Hotchkis late of Pulley husbandman W^{m} Nickolls of Salop schrever and other evil disposed persons with force and arms to wit with swords staves bows and arrows on the 27th of December in the year aforesaid expelled th said Richard Hose senior out of the manor of Mule Brace whereof he was lawfully seised in his demesne as of fee, the king commanded the sheriff to restore the said Hose to his possession : whereupon the said sheriff by his writ, dated from Barford, reciting that the premises were within the liberties of Shrewsbury, commanded the bailiffs Rob^{t} Dudley and Rog^{r} Thornes to execute y^{e} kings precept in this behalf.

1 Jan., 29 Hen. VIII., The R^{t} Hon^{ble} John Zouche knight lorde Zouche Senior and Cant' *(i.e.*, Cantilupe*)* demises to Arthure Makworth of Mule brace the chief messuage, manor, castell, and ferme thereof, with all lands, woods, fishings, fines, &c., &c., thereto belonging. To hold to him, Mary his wife, Richard his eldest son now being of the age of 6 years and John his second son of the age of 5 years and the longest liver of them, yielding and paying to Lord Zouch yearly at his manor of Harryngeworth £11 7s. 11½d. Arthur Mackworth has paid £10 fine for this lease and exonerates lord Zouche of 2s. 6d. for suit of court yearly to the court of Shrewsbury, £1 6s. 8d. yearly to Thomas Bramley gent steward of the manor for his fee: and if the s^{d} Thomas Bramley shall die, or be lawfully avoided of his fee, and if that 19s. 10½d. of free rent goyng out of the manor of Egebolt now reteyned from lord Zouche by the erle of Shrewsbury be recovered, then Arthur Mackworth shall pay L^{d} Zouche either or both of those sums." John, late Lord Zouche, father of the present, had granted to Arthur Mackworth an annuity of £4 out of this manor. It is now covenanted that he shall not demand this as long as he, his wife, or two sons hold this lease, because he has had it better cheape in consideration of his agreement not to demand it.

From a MS. in the possession of Sir Digby Mack-

worth, Bart., drawn up by Thomas Mackworth, Esq., of Betton, in the reign of Charles II., I learn that John, Lord Zouch, conveyed the castle and manor of Meole Brace, and several other lands in Nobold and Newton, to Arthur Mackworth, "but he reserved to himself and to his heirs the royalties hereafter mentioned, viz., to have and give in armes and in conusance the Asse-head, which was before annexed to the said castle of Meole Brace." As the compiler of the MS. from which this extract is taken was of the family of Mackworth of Betton, he appears to have had no access to the ancient documents of his kinsmen of Meole Brace, which had before his time passed into other families. We are, therefore, left in ignorance as to the origin of this cognizance of the ass's head,[1] and are unable to ascertain the date of this alienation of the manor, or from which of the two Lords Zouch of the baptismal name of John it proceeded.

The gallant behaviour of Sir James de Audeley and his four esquires at Poictiers, when, following their master, they placed themselves in the front of the battle, and cut their way through the French army, even to the marshal's standard, is known to every reader of the history of those times. From one of these brave gentlemen the family of Mackworth claim to descend, the other three being Delves, Fowlehurst, and Hawkestone. Other accounts, however, substitute Dutton for Mackworth, and this I take to be the truth. All these five families do indeed bear the frett of Audley in their coat armour; but as the four esquires of Poictiers were all of them confessedly Cheshire men—to a connection with which county Mackworth can have no pretensions, being derived from

[1] An ass's head argent, tied round the mouth with a cord azure, charged on the neck with a fleur de lys vert, is given in Edmonson as the crest of Zouch of Wiltshire. From the terms of the grant above referred to, it appears that it could have belonged only to that branch of the family which was possessed of the castle of Meole Brace.

the castle of that name in Derbyshire, which continued in the Mackworths of Normanton till the middle of the 17th century—we must look elsewhere for their armorial bearings. Accordingly we find from the MS. already quoted that it was not till the year 1404, nearly half a century after the battle of Poictiers, that John Tuchet, Lord Audley, the heir general of the hero of that famous day, granted a coat of arms to John Mackworth and Thomas Mackworth, his brother, for that they and their ancestors had done brave service to him and his ancestors: quod illi & illorum majoris operam fortem sibi & suis majoribus prestitissent. This deed, which, says the MS., "is enrolled in the tower of London—the original being in the custody of Sir Thomas Mackworth [of Normanton, baronet]—and the other part was in the possession of my grandfather, Richard Mackworth, till it was burnt with his other writings at Sutton," shews the true date of the arms of Mackworth, which are, in fact, ingeniously compounded of the two coats of Audley and Touchet blended together.

[The Arms of Audley, Touchet, and Mackworth, are here tricked in the MS.]

This John Mackworth (the grantee of the coat of arms) was Dean of Lincoln and Chancellor to the Prince of Wales, and gave his inn, now called Barnard's Inn, in Holborn, to the chapter of his cathedral church. An Harleian MS. (6,829, fol. 65) gives his epitaph from a marble tomb in that church:—

Joh'es Mackworth decretor' doctor, cancellarius illustrissimi principis Henrici filii Regis Henrici IV^{ti} & Decanus Eccl'ie b'e Marie Lincoln.

From the expression of the MS. it might be supposed that the John Mackworth of the text was an esquire and a military man, but this does not appear to be the case. The original grant is printed in Blore's *History of Rutland*, p. 224. It is in French, and the cause which Lord Audeley assigns for making this grant of arms to the two brothers is "that they are *descended*

from good and valiant persons, and that their ancestors had done good service to his ancestors."

"From a younger brother of the house of the Mackworths, supposed to be one of these armigers of the Lord Audleys, there descended one Thomas Mackworth, who was groome of the privy chamber to Henry VII., as appears from his petition to the King for a ranger's place in the chace of Sutton in the County of Warwick which I now have: and by the marriage with Anne a 2 cosen to the Lord Zouch hee first came into Shropshire and was possessed of the castle and lordshipp of Bracemeole." MS. *ut supr.* If by the word "possessed" in this extract it is meant that this Thomas Mackworth was lord of the manor, this assertion is inconsistent with the former one of John, Lord Zouch's conveyance of it to his son Arthur. He might, however, occupy the castle as tenant to that nobleman, his relation, as is said, by marriage. It is at least certain that he was resident and possessed of land here in that reign, as appears from an indenture of demise made at Meole brace, dated the 8th day of —— in 22 Hen. VII., between Thomas Mackworth and Anne his wife, on the one part, and Elizabeth Worthington on the other part. This is all that is said of that deed in the MS., and it is impossible to conjecture what its import may have been, but Elizabeth Worthington occurs as lady of the manor by grant from another family several years before the date of this last mentioned transaction.[1]

Thomas Mackworth, the groom of the chamber, must have been in much favour with his sovereign if it be true, as stated in the MS. so often quoted, that Prince Arthur, happening to lie at the Castle of Meole Brace on his way from Shrewsbury to Ludlow, stood godfather to his son, and gave him his own name,

Prince Arthur was born in 1486, in 1493 he was

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[1] See p. 109 ante.

constituted Justice in the counties of Salop, &c., and the Marches of Wales. Two years later his father brought him to Shrewsbury, to introduce him, no doubt, to the subjects of his "new-intrusted scepter," and between this time and his death at Ludlow in 1502 he may have resided several times here, or passed between the two towns, of which our annals take no notice. (I find him at Chester in 1498.) So that this anecdote enables us to fix the birth of Arthur Mackworth with sufficient certainty within the compass of a few years.

Of his two sons, Thomas died before his father, leaving issue who "by the fraud of their grandfather were disinherited after their father's decease," says the MS. From Thomas, adds the same authority, comes the family of John Mackworth the dyer in Shrewsbury, who sold the Dayhouse and some lands in Nobold which he had by his father.

"William, the other son, mortgaged all his father's land in Meele brace, Nobold, and Newton to one Thomas Harris of Lincoln's Inn, the younger, as appears by his deed, 35 Eliz., most of which is since come to be the inheritance of Sir Francis Edwards, Bart., as bought by his grandfather, old Mr. Edwards, and some is possessed by Mr. Berrington of Motehall." *Ibid.*

Memorandum that Humfrey Mackworth upon New Year's Day, 1682, being treasurer at bar of the Christmas of the Middle Temple, together with Th. Montgomerie, Esq., treasurer under the bar, and the rest of the officers and gentlemen of that honourable society, waited upon his majesty *(ore tenus)* to wish him a happy new yeare, and to assure that as that society had in the worst of times by a loial address and abhorrence given an example of loialty to other inns of court, soe in all the changes of the government of theire society, the middle temple is still truly loiall, which, as lawyers he thought they were more obliged to declare publickly: and soe concluded with a hearty

prayer for his majesty and the royall succession in the right line.

Upon Jan. 15 after, though the *Gazette* says the 20th, his majesty was pleased to confer the honor of knighthood upon him. His Majesty was pleased to express that he heard a very good character of him, so bad him kneel down, &c., and with the sword of my Lord of Aran, D. Hamilton's son, conferred the honor of knighthood upon him. The sword my Lord Aran after, at the Dog Taverne in Drury lane, presented to Sir H. Mackworth, being one of the King's swords with eleven crounes upon it, which the King had formerly given my Lord Aran. He paid fees £81 13s. 4d. to Mr. Duppe, chiefe gentleman usher.

The words of his speech are as follows, viz. :—

"May it please your majesty, &c."

[It is in the common style of such addresses. They refer to their abhorrence of the late traitorous and hellish association, and talk of their attendance at Westminster making them the best witnesses of His Majesty's great justice and clemency; of the presence of his most illustrious royal brother being the best security to His Majesty's person and government; and conclude with praying that there may never be wanting millions equally loyal to sacrifice their lives and fortunes for his safety, and for the preservation of the royal succession in the right line, &c.]

[Here follow in the Blakeway MS. four pages of short tabular pedigrees of the family of Mackworth, which however it is quite unnecessary to reproduce here, as a full Pedigree of Mackworth has already been printed, under Betton Strange, in the *Transactions*, 2nd Series, vol. i., pp. 390—396, to which reference should be made. The short pedigrees here given add nothing to the full pedigree there printed.—Ed.]

Arthur Mackworthe of Meole Brace, gentleman, was living in 1583, when his son William was admitted a burgess of Salop, and must have been a very aged man if he were indeed godson to the Prince of Wales.

Arthur Mackworthe, of Meole Brace, gent. = Mary Barker.

William Mackworthe, of Salop, gent.; adm. of Salop School, 1562; adm. a burgess of Salop 1583. = Elizabeth, dau. of Nicholas Grosvenor.

- Mary, b. 1574.
- Arthur Mackworthe, b. 1575; adm. of Salop School 1593.
- Eleanor, b. 1576.
- Martha, b. 1578.

- Sislia, i.e., Cicely, b. 1581.
- Jane, b. 1582.
- Edward, 2nd son.
- Richard, 3rd son.
- Ursula.

On the 7th of March, 40 Eliz. (1597-8), William Mackworth, gent., of Brace Meole, Elizabeth, his wife, and Arthur, his son and heir, sold to Thomas Edwards of Shrewsbury, Esq., the manor of Meole Brace, and the manor house or capital messuage called the Castle of Meole Brace, and all houses, lands, tenements, &c., in Meole Brace, Nobold, Newton, Pully, and Edgbold.

30 Aug., 41 Eliz. (1599), Philip Draycott, Esq., son and heir-apparent of John Draycott of Paynsley, Co. Staff., Esq., and Wm. Blundell of Crosbye, Co. Lanc., Esq., quit claim to Thomas Edwards of Shrewsbury, Esq., all their title in y^e^ rectory of Meole Brace and y^e^ advowson of the vicarage, and in a tithe croft and lands thereto adjoining lying in Jonesfield in y^e^ s^d^ parish of Meole Brace, also in various tenements in Shrewsbury.

27 Aug., 1702, Agreement between Robt. Harvey, junr., of the Inner Temple, Esq., and Thomas Edwardes of Salop, Esq.:—

Whereas Sir Francis Edwarde bar^t^ of Grantham cō. Linc., nephew of y^e^ s^d^ Thomas, did 21 Aug., 1700, convey the Manor of Meole Brace & its lands & appurts., & all his messuages in Newton, Nobould, Edgebold, Pulley, Coleham & Frankwell,—y^e^ farm called the Coates in Rushbury p'sh,—the College in Shrewsbury,—to feoffees to y^e^ use of himself for life,—rem^r^ to his wife Susanna for life,—rem^r^ to their son & heir Francis in tail male, rem^r^ to himself Sir Francis in tail male, rem^r^ to the issue of himself & Susanna, & on failure of such issue, a moiety of y^e^ premises sho^d^ go to y^e^ r^t^ heirs of Sir Francis, or otherwise as he sho^d^ direct by will, & the other moiety in like manner to dame Susanna's heirs or devisees

And whereas y^e^ s^d^ S^r^ Francis & his wife are now dead, & Harvey is her eldest brother & heir, & as such entitled to ye reversion of y^e^ s^d^ moiety, It is agreed in cons'on that Thomas Edwardes make a settlement of his Manor of Greete,—that Harvey will levy a fine of his moiety aforesaid to y^e^ use of y^e^ s^d^ Thomas in tail male, rem^r^ to his brothers, Benjamin Edwardes of London, Herbert Edwardes of Salop, gents., & Jonathan Edwardes of Marton, clk., in tail male successively, rem^r^ to y^e^ right heirs of Sir Francis.

And whereas y^e^ s^d^ Thomas did 29 Feb., 1689, on his marriage with Mary his wife, settle his Manor of Greete, &c., to himself & wife for life, rem^r^ to his right heirs—This settlement of Greete is now extended to y^e^ children Thomas Edwards may have by any other wife.

In 1727, Sir Francis Edwards conveyed the tithes of Egebold and Newton to John Craig, gent., who, in 1744, conveyed them to Jonathan Scott. (From the title deeds of Scott of Betton).

Jonathan Scott had an estate at Edgebold in y^e^ p'sh of Meole Brace, which in 1672 he settled on his marriage with Elizabeth Stone, widow, daughter of Edw. Tong, gent. He further augmented this, in 1692, by a purchase there and at Newton from Joshua Ireland, gent., which was finally completed in 1718.

The elder branch of Mr. Edwards's descendants (who were raised to the baronetage in the person of his son, Sir Thomas) terminated in a daughter married to the Lord Viscount Malpas, who sold this manor in the year 1779 to John Bather of Shrewsbury, gent.,[1] whose

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[1] [The Conveyance to Mr. Bather of the Manor of Meol Brace, otherwise Brace Meole, with the Court Baron perquisites of Court, and all and singular other members, rights, and royalties and appurtenances to the said Manor and the Advowson, is dated 25th March (19 Geo. III.), 1779.

This deed is made between the Right Honourable Lady Hester Malpas, otherwise called Hester Cholmondeley, of the City of Bath, widow and relict of the Right Honourable George Cholmondeley, Esquire, commonly called Lord Viscount Malpas, lately deceased, and also only child and heiress of Sir Francis Edwards, late of the Town of Shrewsbury in the County of Salop, Baronet, deceased, Dame

grandson, the Rev. Edward Bather, is now lord of the manor, and patron and incumbent of the vicarage.

"The Hanly in this p'sh."

W. Linden, M.D., published in 8vo. in 1768 "a medical and experimental history and analysis of the Hanlys spa saline purging and chalybeate waters near Shrewsbury."

[Amongst the Shrewsbury Corporation muniments is preserved a Writ of Right Patent, dated at Westminster 23 July, 8 George II., addressed to the Mayor and Recorder of Shrewsbury to do full right to John Adams of the Manor of Meole Brace otherwise Meel Brace, with the appurtenances, and of 40 messuages, 20 cottages, 2,000 acres of land, 400 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood, 300 acres of furze and heath, 40s. rent, and common of pasture for all manner of cattle, with the appurtenances in Meole Brace otherwise Meel Brace, Nobold, Edgmond, and Newton, Newton Common, Pulley, the town of Shrewsbury, and the parish of Meel; And also of Tithes of corn, grain, and hay arising in Meel, Nobold, Edgmond, Pulley, and Newton; And the Advowson of the Church of Meole Brace, which he claimeth to hold of us by fee service of one penny by the year for all services, which William Turner deforceth. A Court was held 23 July, and was adjourned to 25 July, 1734, when John Adams and William Turner appear, and demands against Sir Francis Edwardes, Bart., the manor of Meole Brace, &c., and doth call to warrant Thomas Jones, who claims to be tenant, but doth not appear, and is therefore in mercy, &c.

The descent of the Manor of Meole Brace in the families of Edwardes and Bather can thus be traced. I. Thomas Edwardes, Esq., of The College, Shrewsbury, the purchaser of the Manor and estates of Meole Brace in March, 1597-8, and of the advowson in the following year, died 19 March, 1634, and was buried at St. Chad's. By his wife Anne, dau. and heiress of Humfrey Baskerville, and relict of Stephen Ducket, he had issue a son Thomas Edwardes, who was created a Baronet on 21 March, 1644. II. Sir Thomas Edwardes, Bart., died in April, 1660, and was bur. at St. Chad's, leaving by his 2nd wife Cicely, dau. of Edward Brooke of Church Stretton, with other issue three sons: (1) Francis, 2nd Bart., who succeeded him in the title and estates; (2) Thomas, ancestor of the 5th and 6th

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Hester Edwardes, otherwise Wyse, of the City of Bath aforesaid, widow of the late Sir Francis Edwards, and mother of the said Lady Hester Malpas, of the first part, Thomas Mason of the Town of Shrewsbury aforesaid, Merchant, of the second part, and John Bather of The Bank in the said County of Salop, Gentleman, of the third part.—Ed.]

Baronets; and (3) Rev. Jonathan, Vicar of Meole Brace, ancestor of the present line of Baronets. III. Sir Francis Edwardes, 2nd Bart., b. 13 May, 1643, was a Colonel of Foot in King William III.'s service, and died in Ireland in 1690. By his wife Eleanor, dau. of Sir George Warburton of Arley, Bart., he had issue a son Francis, 3rd Bart. IV. Sir Francis Edwardes, 3rd Bart., b. 29 Nov., 1670, resided at Grantham, and died in Oct., 1701. He married Susanna, sister of Robert Harvey of Stockton, and left issue, (1) Francis, who succeeded him as 4th Bart., and (2) Eleanor, who married her cousin, Sir Henry Edwardes, 5th Bart., of Greet and The College in Shrewsbury. V. Sir Francis Edwards, 4th Baronet, b. 1698, died 5 August, 1734, and was bur. at Meole Brace. He married, 20 June, 1726, Hester, daughter and coheir of John Lacon, Esq., of West Coppice, and had issue an only daughter and heiress,—VI. Hester Edwardes, who mar. 19 Jan., 1747, George Viscount Malpas, and sold the Manor, Advowson, and estates of Meole Brace 25 March, 1779, to John Bather, Esq.

See Pedigrees of the Family of Edwardes in the *Vis.* of Salop, 1623, the Baronetages, and Owen and Blakeway's *Shrewsbury*, ii., 259. The Arms of Edwardes are, Gules a chevron engrailed between three tigers' heads erased at the neck argent. This family is descended from Tudor Trevor, Lord of Hereford, Whittington, and Both Maelors, and Founder of the Tribe of the Marches, by his wife Angharad, daughter of Howell Dha, King of South Wales, A.D 907.

I. John Bather, Esq., who purchased the manor, advowson, and estates of Meole Brace in 1779, was the son of Edward Bather of Walford, by Katherine, dau. of John Edwards of Great Ness; he married Elizabeth Hawkesford, and dying 31 Jan., 1810, was succeeded by his grandson,—II. The Venerable Edward Bather (son of the Rev. John Bather, who died in *vitâ patris*, 26 Oct., 1796), Vicar of Meole Brace and Archdeacon of Salop. On the Archdeacon's death without issue, 3 Oct., 1847, the estates came to his nephew,—III. The Rev. Edw. Bather (son of John Bather, Esq., of Dinthill, Recorder of Shrewsbury, who died 8 Nov., 1839), Vicar of Meole Brace. He died without issue, 15 March, 1851, and was succeeded by his brother,—IV. John Bather, Esq., of the Day House. He married Isabella Beilby, and died 21 May, 1886, leaving, with other issue a son,—V. Edward William Bather, Esq., Barrister-at-law, of Davenham Cottage, Northwich, Co. Chester, and The Hall, Meole Brace, the present Lord of the Manor, and owner of the estates, and Patron of the Advowson of Meole Brace.

The name Bather, or Bathoe, is of some antiquity in Shropshire, and at an early date occurs as Ap Atha. The following Pedigree, which is compiled from various sources, shows the position of the several members of the family who have been Lords of the Manor and Vicars of the Church of Meole Brace. The Roman numerals prefixed show the Lords. For several dates in it, the Editor is indebted to the kindness of E. C. Peele, Esq.—ED.]

ROBERT BATHER, or Bathoe, of Adcott Hall, co. Salop; died 12 Nov., 1720; bur. at Great Ness. = Jane.

Edward Bather, of Walford, parish of Baschurch; b. 1703; d. 9 June, 1776; bur. at Great Ness. = Katharine, dau. of John Edwards, Esq., of Great Ness; bur. there 9 Dec., 1773, aged 80.

I. John Bather, of Meole Brace, Esq.; a noted carrier; purchased the Manor of Meole Brace in 1779: bapt. 30 June, 1726, at Little Ness; d. 31 Jan., 1810; bur. 5 Feb. at Meole Brace, M.I. = Elizabeth, dau. of Richard Hawkesford, of Shrewsbury and Ivetsey; m. 1 Jan., 1750, at S. Julian's, Shrewsbury; d. 6 April, 1785, æt. 52.

Margaret, m. at Baschurch, 27 June, 1754, John Brayne of Shrewsbury.

Rev. John Bather, M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxon; Vicar of Meole Brace 1778-1796; bapt. 23 Oct., 1751, at St. Chad's; d. 26 Oct., 1796; bur. 1 Nov., at Meole Brace, M.I. = Martha Hannah, dau. of Rev. James Halifax, D.D., Rector of Whitchurch; b. 2 Sept., 1757; d. 30 Aug., 1824; bur. 4 Sept., at Meole Brace, aged 66; M.I.

Emma, dau. of Rev. Robert Hallifax, M.A., J.P., Vicar of Standish with Hardwick, co. Glouc.; d. 14 Dec., 1825, æt. 42. (1st wife). = II. Ven. Edward Bather, M.A., Oriel Coll., Oxon.; Vicar of Meole Brace 1804-1847; Prebendary of Lichfield, and Archdeacon of Salop, 1828; Lord of the Manor of Meole Brace; b. 1780, and bapt. 2 Ap., 1780; d. 3 Oct., 1847, bur. 8th, at Meole Brace, M.I. = Mary, dau. of the Right Rev. Samuel Butler, D.D., Lord Bishop of Lichfield m. at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 27 March, 1828; d. 26 Dec., 1853, æt. 54. (2nd wife).

John Bather, of Dinthill, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and Recorder of Shrewsbury; bapt. 30 Sept., 1781; m. 20 Dec., 1814; d. 8 Nov., 1839, at Cheltenham, bur. 15th, at Meole Brace. = Elizabeth, dau. of Rev. George Gipps, M.A., Rector of Ringwold, co. Kent; d. 6 Oct., 1880, æt. 93.

Martha, bapt. 16 Jan., 1783; bur. 5 April, 1823.

III. Rev. Edward Bather, M.A., Merton Coll., Oxon; Vicar of Meole Brace 1847-1851; Lord of the Manor of Meole Brace; b. at Dinthill, 2 July, 1817; d. at Bournemouth, 15 March, 1851, æt. 33. = Maria, dau. of Rev. Charles Powell, Rector of Munslow; m. there 14 Nov., 1848.

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George Bather of Wroxeter; d. 13 Sept., 1885.

Arthur Henry Bather, of the Hall, Meole Brace; d. 25 July, 1892.

Ven. Henry Francis Bather, M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb.; Vicar of Meole Brace since 1858, Canon Residentiary of Hereford, and Archdeacon of Ludlow; b. 8 Feb., 1832; m. 6 August, 1857. = Elizabeth, Mary, dau. of the Rev. T. D. Atkinson, Vicar of Rugeley, co. Stafford.

IV. John Bather, of the Day-house, Meole Brace; Lord of the Manor and Patron of Meole Brace; M.A. and Fellow of St. John's Coll., Camb.; b. 7 Jan., 1819; d. 21 May, 1886; M.I. at Meole Brace (second son). = Isabella, dau. of William Beilby, M.D.; b 9 Ap., 1829; m. at St. Thomas', Edinburgh, 18 September, 1851; d. 16 June, 1886.

Emma, d. unm. 23 Jan., 1877.
Louisa, m. Rev. T. C. Powell, rector of Munslow.
Rhoda, d. unm. 12 May, 1893.
Elizabeth, married Thomas Bather of Willcote, Great Ness.

V. Edward William Bather of Chelford, co. Chester; Barrister-at-Law, Lord of the Manor and Patron of Meole Brace; b. 10 Jan., 1854; m. 30 Sept., 1886. = Muriel, dau. of Spencer Bickham of Oakwood, Alderley Edge.

Rev. William Henry Bather, M.A., Pemb. Coll., Oxon; of Ellstree, Herts.

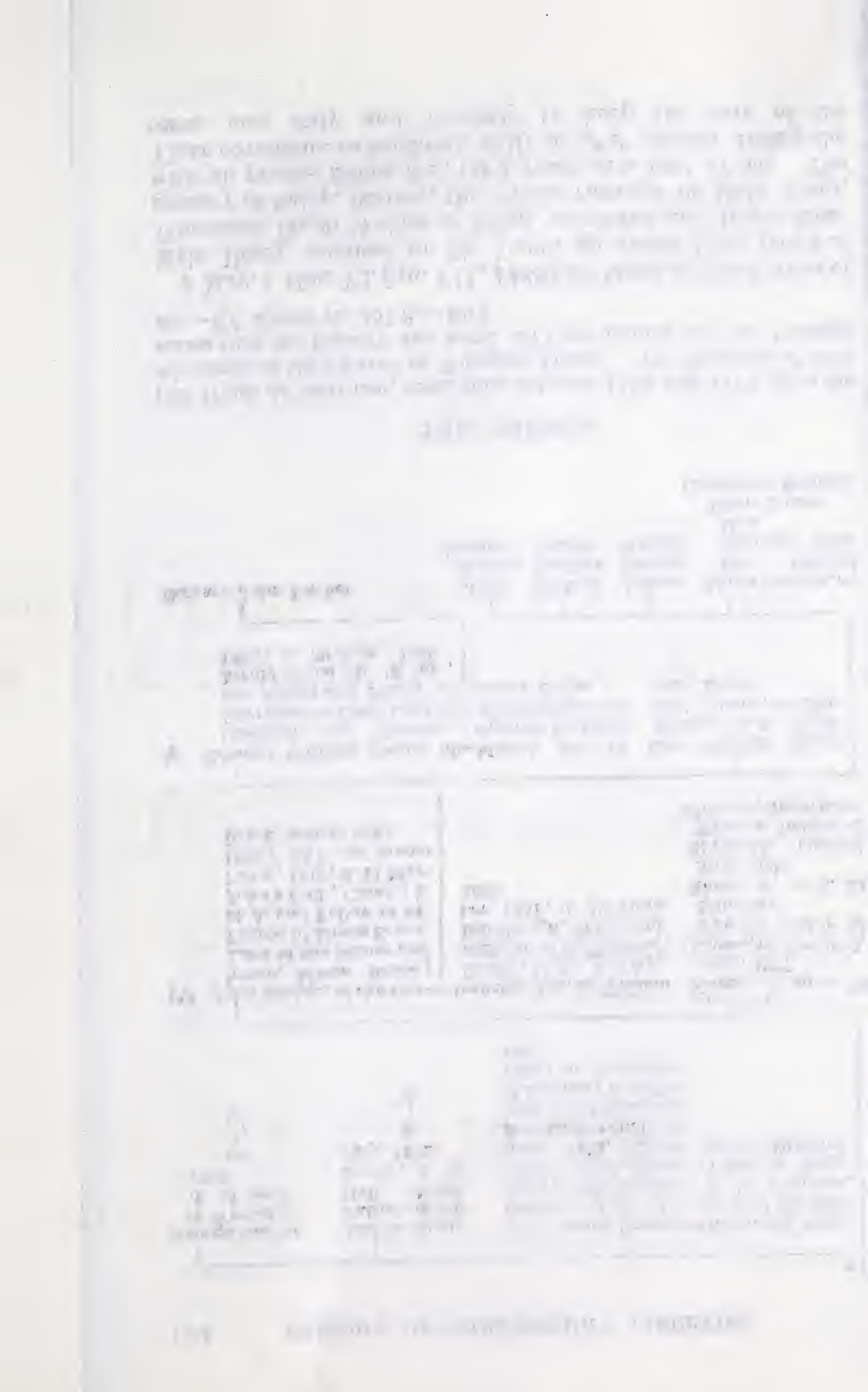
Edward John Bather.

John Brayne Bather.
Herbert Knollys Bather.
Arthur George Bather.
Maria Isabella, m. Rev. Edward Grainger Hall, M.A.
Ellen Louisa.
Constance Hannah.

THE CHURCH.

[Sir Hugh de Mortimer, some time between 1155 and 1174, gave the advowson of the Church to Wigmore Abbey. The Taxation of 1291 states that the Rectory was worth £12 per annum, and the Vicarage £5.—*Cf.* Eyton vi., 357-8.—Ed.]

9 May, 5 Hen. VI. [qu. VII., 1489] Sir Owin ap Gruff, vicar of Mele Bracy, demises to Sir David ap Jevan Lloit, rector of Wentener, Hugh Walker of Salop, merchant, and Roger Mongomery of Salop, literate, the whole vicarage of Mele Bracy, with all profits, tithes, &c., for 7 years, at a rent of £6. The Vicar covenants to celebrate daily in y^e s^d church during the term, and duly and honestly to keep the care of the



parishioners (curam parochianorum debite & honeste custodire); if he refuse so to do, the lessees to hire (conducere) a fit chaplain for those purposes, and to retain the portion of his salary out of y^e^ rent of £6. The lessees to bear all the ordinary burdens of the church. H. T.: Johes Poyns', Roberto Scherer, Will'mo Herde, & M. A.

It should seem as if the vicar had got into debt.

By indenture of 22 Aug., 11 Hen. VIII. (1519), between John, abbot of S^t^ James of Wygmore and the convent of the same place, rectors of the parish church of Meolbracy, on one part, and master John Constable, dean, and the chapter and vicars of S^t^ Chad in Salop, Robert Bayley, John Foster, and Richard Maunsell of the other part, reciting that William, late abbot of the said monastery, and his convent demised to one John Styche, chaplain, John Charnoll, and Katherine his wife, all tithes of sheaf and all other profits belonging to the said abbot and convent, in right of the church of Meole bracy, to hold for three years and so from three years to three years during the life of Charnell and his wife, and the longest liver of them, at the yearly rent of 100^s^,—now the present abbot and convent demise to the said dean, chapter, and vicars, and Bayly, Foster, and Maunsell, all the said tithes of sheaf, and the rectory aforesaid, with all appurtenances except the presentation of the vicarage, to hold for 99 years, to commence from the expiration of the former lease, at the same rent. [Seal tricked.]

The tithes were afterwards demised to Reginald Corbet gent.; and Edward VI., on 14 Dec^r^ 3^to^ regni, granted them *(inter alia)* to Hugh Edwardes and W^m^ Knight of London, mercers, who on y^e^ 8^th^ of Febr., 4 Edward VI. (1550), granted them to Robert Alen of Salop, draper.

30 Aug., 1599, Philip Draycott, Esq., son and heir of John Draycott of Paynsley, Co. Staff., Esq^r^, and W^m^ Blundell of Crosbye, Co. Lanc., Esq^r^, release to Tho. Edwards of Sal., Esq^r^, their right in the rectory and church and advowson of the vicarage of Meole Brace, with all tithes, &c., and divers tenements in Shrewsbury.

7 Sept., 39 Eliz., Richard Banister of Wem, Esq., granted to W^m^ Adams of the same, yeoman, the next presentation to the vicarage of Meole Brase; and 11 Nov., 1598, Adams assigns it to John Raynolds of Forten, Co. Sal., yoman.

Ponsbury Deanery.

V. Brace Meol. Harl. MSS., 6,826.

The tithes of corn are all impropriated to the patron Sir Francis Edwards, except in some certain closes, where the

vicar has the whole tithes: who also enjoys all the small tithes of the parish, and several acres of glebe worth about £6 or £7 per annum. The value of y^e^ vicarage is about £40 a year.

Extracted out of the Registry of the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Hereford:—

Brace Meelle

The presentment of the Vicar ther of the Terrier of the Glibe Land made the xix^th^ day of July 1607. I say fyrst that the p'sonage ys reputed to have byn impropriated to the Abbey of Wygmor And ys now the inherytance of Thomas Edwards of Salop w^th^in the Liberty of the Towne of Salop Esquyre Whom I do repute & take to be the Patrone of the Vicaredge Also there belongeth to the sayd Vicaredge of Glybe Land to the Quantity of xvi^t^ bushells sowynge Salop Met or thereabowts w^ch^ I suppose to be abowte viii acars or therabowts whereof three Bushells Sowynge or thereabowts lieth in one Inclosure called by the Name Bradwall Hill. Also there ys three lyttle Pyckes beyng half a Bushell sowynge or thereabowtes old Salop Met w^ch^ lythe in one Inclosure in Wythymore ffyld Wyd'ynge uppon a croft called Cutlars Croft w^th^in the Township of Newton. Also there ys on Land in Inclosure adjoynynge to a Place called the Yeld towards Wytley beynge vii^en^ Peckes or therabouts old Salop met beinge w^th^in a Pasture of the Township of Newton forsaid old Salop met Also ther ys one p'cell of Land to the Quantyte by Estymac'on of on Bushell & a half sowynge or therabowts lynge in Inclosure w^th^ a Pasture called Snelson Fyld w^thin^ the Township of Newton Also ther ys viii Bushells Sowynge or therabowtes ould Salop Mett lyinge in the Myddill fylde of Brace Meelle as the Fild dothe lye Also there ys in Pulleys Filde on Bushell and a half sowynge Salop Mett or thereabowts beynge two Buttes of Glybe Land, On But, beyond a Place called the More the other Rudge ys beyond a Croft called Mony Bridge Croft No pasture in Inclosure but the Croft aforesaid called Bradwall Hill w^th^ the Churchyard & Orchard And a lytle lytle *(sic)* inclosure at the Churchyard syde towards the Water Smale fedynge but the Com'on Fildes A Very lytle Com'on beyinge to the Towne of Brace Meele Also I say that ther belongeth to the Vicaredge One howse wherein the Vicar now dwelleth, on barne Moreover ther belongeth to the sayd Vicaredge the Teyth Corne of all the Whom Closses throughout all the Parish of all Man'er of Grayne that ys sowed uppon them w^th^ the Teyth Wole & Lamb, Teyth Hempe & Flax, Teythe Gysse, Teyth Pyges, The

Old Church at Meole Brace, taken down MDCCXCIX

Ester Booke, Teyth Egges All the Teyth Hay belongynge to the Parish, Herbach, The Teyth Wod of all the Cop'ces w^thin the p'ish of Brace Meole, Teyth Garleck & Iny'ons, Teyth Aples Teyth Pers, Teyth Wardens Mortmains & of ev'y stalles of Bees in Lew of the Teyth 2ij^d Also ther belongeth to the Vicar for every Buriall w^thin the Chansall vi^s viii^d and what Privates belongeth to the sayd Vicaredge as yet I know not.

Jo Sherer vicar ib'm

Arthur Jeffes
Arthur Hicken } Churchwardens

Examined
Tho^s Clarke Reg^ar

[The old Church, of which an illustration is given, was taken down in the year 1799. In 1724, its roof was ceiled, the walls new plastered, and a gallery erected. In 1789, its roof and the inside of the Church were repaired, the south side of the chancel cased, and the windows enlarged and glazed. On taking down the old Church, a sepulchral stone of rude sculpture, 2ft. 8in. in length, was found under the gallery staircase. (See an engraving in *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1807, vol. 77, p. 809.) A new Church was erected in 1799, an ugly, red-brick, cruciform structure, consisting of nave, chancel, and transepts; this in its turn was taken down in 1869; it lay to the south-west of the modern Church, and its site is marked by stones. The two stones to the Edwardes family were in the chancel of the Church. The dedication is doubtful, whether to All Saints or Holy Trinity.

The present Church was erected in 1867, and was consecrated on Trinity Sunday, May 19, 1869. It consists of nave and apsidal chancel, with tower at the north-west corner containing three bells, vestry on the north-east side, and porch on the south side. The windows are as follows:—

In the chancel: Three windows.

The subject of the centre one is Christ on the Cross, with representations of Angels, Apostles, and Kings on the north side, and Prophets, Apostles, and Martyrs on the south side. This was the gift of Edward Haycock. The north chancel window depicts Old Testament scenes, and was given by George Burr in memory of William Burr. The south chancel window has New Testament scenes, and was erected by subscription. These windows were the work of Morris and Co.

In the nave: On the south side:—

(1) Faith in the centre, with Enoch and Elias on either side. Below is this inscription on a brass:—"In memory of Arthur Henry Bather, late Assistant Accountant General of Navy, died July 25, 1892, æt. 62, erected by Henry F. Bather, Vicarius."

(2) Hope in the centre, with Noe and Simeon on either side, and this inscription:—"In memory of Mary Flavel of Pulley, died March 11, 1868, æt. 85."

On the east wall of the south aisle :—

The Annunciation : In memory of Emma and Rhoda Bather, 1894. By Kempe.

On the south side :—

Martha and Mary : "In memory of the sisters Sarah and Mary Ann Peake, 1887." By Powell, White Friars.

In the Tower of the Church are these mural tablets :—

John Bather, Vicar of this Church, died 26 Oct., 1796, æt. 45. Erected by Martha Bather, his widow. [*Latin Inscription.*]

Martha Hannah, widow of the Rev. John Bather, M.A., late Vicar of this parish, and dau. of the Rev. James Hallifax, D.D., Vicar of Whitchurch, born Sept. 2, 1757, and died Augt. 30, 1824.

Martha, their dau., died Ap. 2, 1823, æt. 40.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bather, wife of John Bather, Esq., died 6 April, 1785, æt. 52.

John Bather, Esq., died 13 Jan., 1810, æt. 83.

John Bather, of the Day House, born Jan. 7, 1819, died May 21, 1886.

Isabella Bather his wife, born Ap. 9, 1829, died June 16, 1886.

Emma, wife of the Rev. Edward Bather, M.A., Vicar of Meole Brace, and dau. of the Rev. Robert Hallifax, of Standish, Co. Gloucester, died Dec. 14, 1825, æt. 42.

Edward Bather, M.A., 20 years Archdeacon of Salop in the diocese of Lichfield, and 43 years Vicar of this parish, died Oct. 3, 1847, æt. 67.

Mary, 2nd wife of Edward Bather, and dau. of Samuel Butler, D.D., Lord Bishop of Lichfield, died Dec. 26, 1853, æt. 54.

John Bather, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and Recorder of Shrewsbury, died Nov. 8, 1839, æt. 58. He was second son of the Rev. John Bather, M.A., Vicar of this parish, and married Elizabeth, dau. of the Rev. George Gipps, M.A., Rector of Ringwold, Kent, by whom he left 5 sons and 4 daus.

Also Elizabeth, wife of John Bather, died Oct. 6, 1880, æt. 93.

The Rev Edward Bather, M.A., Vicar of this parish, died at Bournemouth March 15, 1851, æt. 33.

John Allen, A.M., 20 years Vicar, died March 20, 1778, æt. 70.

Katherine Octavia Powlett, born Oct. 27, 1806, died Feb. 15, 1810.

Charles Armand Temple Powlett, born March 11, and died Aug. 26, 1809.

Children of Rev. Charles Powlett and Anne his wife.

John Evans, M.D., of Shrewsbury, died 1 March, 1821, in his 70th year.

Jane, his wife, died 2 July, 1826, in her 62nd year.

Penelope Seddon, his sister, died 22 Sept., 1805, in her 50th year.

Elizabeth Bishop, wife of John Bishop, of Shrewsbury, died Dec. 24, 1805.

John Bishop of Shrewsbury, died Dec. 4, 1812, æt. 68.

Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Robert Richards of Edgbolt, died 21 Jan., 1802, æt. 78.

Sarah, wife of Allan Cunningham, died 9 Aug., 1794, æt. 41.
Erected by her sons Allan and Richard.

Elizabeth Powell, of the Abbey in Shrewsbury, formerly of Bridgnorth, died 26 June, 1834, æt. 76.

Elizabeth, relict of Rev. Charles Peters, died in Shrewsbury, July 2, 1863, æt. 84.

Rev. Charles Peters, A.M., Rector of the 2nd portion of Pontesbury, formerly Fellow of Queen's Coll., Oxon, and Rector of St. George's and Roseau, Dominica, died Ap. 7, 1824, æt. 56.

George Peters, 2nd son of Rev. Charles Peters and Elizabeth, died May 20, 1824. æt. 15.

Elizabeth, widow of Rev. Jonathan Peters, Vicar of St. Clement's, near Truro, Cornwall, born July 21, 1736, died Jan. 22, 1814.

Mary Floyd, died 8 Nov., 1782, æt. 69, widow of John Floyd, Esq., 1st Dragoons, who died in Germany Sept. 12, 1759. They had issue 4 children; the youngest, Thomas Floyd, was Lieutenant R.N.

Sarah Reynolds, died Nov. 24, 1798, æt. 81, for 41 years a friend of Mary Floyd, buried at Sidmouth.

Elizabeth, dau. of Richard and Elizabeth Juson, of Nobold, died May 12, 1807, æt. 6 months.

Elizabeth, wife of Richard Juson, died Jan. 16, 1808, æt. 25.

Elizabeth, dau. of Richard Juson and Elizabeth Dicken his 2nd wife, died March 30, 1817, æt. 2 months.

Elizabeth Dicken, 2nd wife of Richard Juson, died Ap. 27, 1853, æt. 63.

William, youngest son of Richard Juson and Elizabeth Dicken of Red Hill, died Feb. 18, 1857, æt. 36, and was interred in the Shrewsbury General Cemetery.

Mr. Thomas Hiles, of Pulley, died 31 Jan., 1804, æt. 54.

John, son of Thomas Hiles, died July 15, 1809, æt. 21.

Sarah, relict of Thomas Hiles, died 18 Jan. 1831, in her 81st year.

Rev. John Cotton, M.A., 47 years Vicar of this parish, and 24 of St. Alkmund's, died Dec. 26, 1757, æt 73.

Elizabeth, wife of John Cotton, died Nov. 11, 1742, æt. 51.

Also eleven of their children.

Mr. John Cotton, Alderman of Shrewsbury, died May 14, 1766, æt. 51.

(On Flat Stones in the Chancel of the Old Church, now part of the Churchyard.)

Sir Francis Edwardes, 4 Bart.,
Lord of the manor & Patron of this Church,
died 5 Aug., 1734, æt. 36. Also
Hester his widow, daughter of John Lacon, Esq., of
West Coppice, died 10 Oct.. 1805, æt 98.
Hester, their only child, relict of George Viscount Malpas,
died 1 Sept., 1794, æt. 67.

Sir Henry Edwardes, 5 Bart., of Greet, and The College
in Shrewsbury; died 26 March, 1767, æt. 74.
Eleanor, his wife, daughter of Sir Francis Edwardes, 3rd Bart.,
died 23 Feb., 1759, æt. 59.

In the Churchyard are monumental inscriptions to the families of Bather, Beck, Blunt, Crane, Edwards, Evans, Flavel, France, Harper, Harris, Harrison, Hiles, Homfrey, Hotchkiss, Hughes, Lloyd, Minshull, Parker, Prichard, Scarth, Southam, Sutton, &c., &c.

(In the Shrewsbury General Cemetery.)

Arthur Henry Bather, died 25 July, 1892.

Lucy Elizabeth, his 1st wife, dau. of Charles James Blomfield, Bishop of London, died 5 Sept., 1864.

John Bather, of the Day House, born 7 Jan., 1819, died 21 May, 1886.

Isabella Bather, his wife, born 9 April, 1829, died 16 June, 1886.

Margaret Elizabeth Bather, died 26 May, 1862, æt. 3½ years.

Emma Bather, died 23 Jan., 1877, æt. 60.

Rhoda Bather, died 12 May, 1893, æt. 68.

The old Vicarage House was rebuilt in 1670, and the present Church stands on its site. The present Vicarage was erected in 1869. The Register Books commence in 1681.

The following Certificates of Church ornaments and goods, &c., belonging to the Church of Meole Brace in the year 1553, are extracted from the originals in the Public Record Office :—

(Exch. Q.R, Church Goods, 6 Edw. VI., Salop, 8-10, m. 8.)

These be the ornaments and goodes of the chirche of Meolle Brace p'sentyd by the Vicar and the ij Wardens wyth ij onest men of the pareshe.

In p'mis a challysse of sylvyr weying v ounces & di.

It. a Crosse of brasse.

It. a Cruett of pewtur

It. ij chandylstykes of brace

It. iij peyr of vestments on of greyn satten on of dornyx and on of Red wosted and dornyx

It. a cope of sylke

It. iij awter cloythes

It. iij belles

George Mybroard and Robert Sherer Wardens

Robert Sherer clerk Vicar ther

Rychard Medlycott John Sherer
D. Dñs Robert' stherer Vicari'
Rychard Medlycott
(Exch. Q.R., Church Goods 7 Edw. VI., Salop 8-12, m 8.)

Thys Byll indentyd made the xxiij day of May A^no R R. Edr. Sext. vij° betwen S^r Adam Mytto' Knyght John Corbet of lye esquyer & Rog^r Lewys comyssioners by v'tue of the Kyng's ma^ts lres of comyssion to them amongst other directed of the on p'tye and S^r Robart Stherer clerk Vicar of Meolle Brace, Rychard Medelycot, Rychard Stherer, Warden of the parish Churche of Meolle, Arthur Macworth, John Stherer, P'ishioners of the sayde p'ishe of the other p'tie Wytnessyth that ther be remaynig w^thyn the seyd Churche on chalice w^t pate't weyeng v owences And iij small belles, w^ch Chalic & bells the sayd comyssioners on the Kyngs ma^ts behalf Straytly chargeth and commandyth them savely and suerly to kepe unsolde no other wyse beselyd untyll sucche tyme as the Kyngs ma^te pleasure be unto them further signified And declaryd.

ROBAR. STHER. clerke
ARTHUR MACKWORTH
RYCHARD MEDLYCOTT

* * * * —ED.]

EXTRACTS FROM THE PARISH BOOK OF MEOLE BRACE.

168.. For two bookes for the Queen & Prince—1^s Meole Brace—Ould Pulley—Nobould—Newton & Edgbould
1681. For the King's decl' 6^d
1684. For a booke of Hommiles 7^s 6

1745. Aug. 8. Lancelot Taylor cur. of Ditton Priors & Hannah Broughton of Abdon m.
1746. M^rs Mary Staunton wid. bur: from S^t Chads May 18
1749. Aug. 31. Thomas Natchett, a soldier in Lord Rothes's reg^t of dragoons quartered in Shrewsbury, & Elizabeth Adams of Leominster widow, married
1749. 26 Dec. W^m Urwick of S^t Julian's p'sh & Elinor Eddowes of this p'sh m.
1750. 19 Nov. Sarah Cotton d. J. C. v. s.
1751. 3 Sep. M^r Edw. Bright of Montg^y p'sh & M^rs Anne Marie Price of Forden p'sh m.
1752. 31 Aug. M^rs E^th Dawes spinster æt. 72. s. from S^t Marys (she was dau. of y^e Rev. M^r Tho. Dawes, B.D., sometime min^r of S^t Marys.)
11 Dec. M^r Tho. Anderson was shot to death in Kingsland within this p'sh & was bur. y^e same day in S^t Mary's ch' y^d. He was y^e youngest son of Geo. A. Esq^e a Yorksh. gent. & suffered for desertion from gen. Ligoniers reg. of drag. quartered in Shrewsb.

1757. 29 Dec. Rev. Mr John Cotton vic. 49 yr sep.
1758. 27 Jan. John Allen M.A. vic. of Lyons hill cō Heref. instit. Induct. 14 Feb.
1759. 27 Feb. Dame Elenor Edwards w. of Sr Henry Edwards bart sep.
1778. Allen rev. Jno sep. 23 Mar.
1 Apr. John Bather inst. 4th pres. by Jno B. of ye Bank who purchased ye adv. from L. Malpas
1789. Ch' beautified & repaired
1794. In ye spring of this year an exact enumerat'on was taken by ye vicar ye males 379 females 390. total 769 without including any residents in the house of ind:— our own poor in wch were 13. This population the vicar has reason to believe is nearly double to what it was 50 yrs before.
1796. Rev. Jno Bather ye much respected vicar for 18 yrs s. 1 Nov.
27 Dec. Hen. Cay Adams M.A. inst. ind. 31 Dec.
1780. 2 Apr. Edw. s. John & Martha Hannah Bather bapt.

FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM MEOLE PARISH.

	Christenings.	Weddings.	Burials.
1710.—	4	3	8
1711.—	6	3	8
1712.—	7	3	8
1713.—	6	1	9
1714.—	3	4	6
1715.—	5	5	11
1716.—	4	3	8
1717.—	8	2	5
1718.—	6	4	11
1719.—	8	6	15
1720.—	8	8	10
1721.—	6	9	10
1722.—	11	6	12
1723.—	11	19	9
1724.—	13	18	6
1725.—	7	20	9
1726.—	8	24	14
1727.—	9	24	17
1728.—	8	32	14
1729.—	7	30	20
1730.—	14	28	20
1731.—	9	31	13

1910—			
1911—			
1912—			
1913—			
1914—			
1915—			
1916—			
1917—			
1918—			
1919—			
1920—			
1921—			
1922—			
1923—			
1924—			
1925—			
1926—			
1927—			
1928—			
1929—			
1930—			
1931—			

	Christenings.	Weddings.	Burials.
1732.—	18	31	6
1733.—	8	44	7
1734.—	17	32	10
1735.—	8	31	3
1736.—	13	22	10
1737.—	6	27	15
1738.—	11	17	11
1739.—	10	28	6
1740.—	9	36	13
1741.—	8	29	13
1742.—	11	22	13
1743.—	...	...	...
1744.—	7	31	6

INCUMBENTS OF MEOLE BRACE.

(From MS. Blakeway 15, fo. 4.)

MEOLE BRACE.

[Temp. King John, 1199—1216.] Richard, chaplain of Moles, S.D. This appears from two deeds in the chartulary of Shrewsbury Abbey, 167 and 186. By the first of these, Richard, chaplain de Mola, sells to William Talpeny, clerk, of Salop," & to whomsoever he shall assign it, & to whomsoever his assign shall assign it," and their heirs, his land in the street of Colnham; paying to the king at the term of Hoketisday one obolus. By the second the said Talpenni grants the above land, which he acknowledges to have purchased of Richard, chaplain of Moles, with the money of Nicholas de Coleham, to the said Nicholas and his Assign. H. T.: Luke son of Walter, and Wala' Poncer,[1] provosts of Salop. This land afterwards became the property of the abbey.

[Lucas de Coleham, son of Walter, and Walam Poncer occur as Provosts of Shrewsbury, probably in the reign of King John. See Owen and Blakeway i., 523.—Ed.]

1277.	Sir Adam de Berecroft, chaplain.	Abbot & Convent of Wigmore.
1284,5 id.Ju.	Adam de Sutton, chaplain.	The same.
1300, 14 Cal. Mar.	Sir Gilbert de Humbr', priest.	The same.
1320, Sep. 6.	Walter de Bokenhull, priest.	The same.
1320, Jan. 22.	John de Kynton.	The same.
[1333-4.]	Ralph Braci, 7 Edw. III.	
1349, Aug. 7.	Sir John de Ellesmere, priest	The same.
	Sir William de Emynchope: on his death, 1359,	
1359-60, Mar. 2.	Sir John Portz; resigned 1361, then called Purs. See BUCKNELL.	The same.
1361-2, Mar. 11.	Thomas Everard, priest.	The same.
	Sir Owin ap Gruffudd.	
	Sir John Montegomery, res. 1421.	
1421-2, Feb. 6.	Sir William Phelyppes, chaplain.	
	Sir Will. Shelve, probably the same; res. 1421.	
[William Shelve occurs vicar of Meolbracy 7 Hen. VI., e cartis Joh. Cotes arm.]		
1425, Aug. 10.	Sir Richard Worthyn, chaplain, res. 1427.	The same.
1427, Oct. 16.	Sir John Turnour, chaplain (see BURWARTON); res. 1428.	The same.
1428-9. Mar. 12.	Sir William Phelyppes, chaplain.	The same.
	Sir William Chyld (qu. if the same), res. 1442.	
1442, Nov. 9.	Sir William Schelve, chaplain.	The same.
	Sir William Phileppes, apparently the same, res. 1460.	
1460, May 2.	Sir William Shery, res. 1460.	The same.
1460, Nov. 31.	Sir John Glover, chaplain, deprived Jul. 13, 1474, ob' incontinentiam fornicationem & incestum cum quadam Agnete quondam seruiente tua, Sibilla Greney, & aliis tuis spiritualibus filiabus.	The same.
1475, Ap. 9.	Sir Owen ap Griffith.	The same.
	In 5 Henry VII, he grants a lease of his vicarage, with all oblations, &c., for 7 years, at a yearly rent of	

£6, and he is to celebrate divine service and take the cure of the souls of the parish, or else the lessees shall pay a fit chaplain out of the rent.

Robert Sherer occurs vicar in 1534-5. (Valor Eccl. Hen. VIII.) sep. Dec. 18, 1573.

1571, Dec. 3. John Sherer (see HANWOOD), sep. 16 Apr., 1618. [His wife was bur. 9 Nov., 1597. He had 5 children, the eldest bapt. at Meole Brace, 15 Dec., 1573.] Patr. Laur. Bannester, Esq. of Wem, ut creditur. W.V. [In 1589 Elizabeth Banister of Wem widow

1618. Richard Poole (see HANWOOD and ST. CHAD'S), sep. at St. Chad's 7 March, 1643-4. Rector of Hanwood 1627-37, and vicar of St. Chad's 1637-44. On 2 Nov., 1627, he has a dispensation to hold with Meole Brace the rectory of Hanwood, distant not more than 5 miles, Rymer, viii., 252. [He was b. at Salop, 1594, "filius plebeii," matriculated as "pauper scholaris" at Gloucester Hall, Oxon, 24 Jan., 1611-12, then aged 17; B.A., 1615; M.A., 1618. See Owen and Blakeway's *Shrewsbury*, ii., 215. By Elizabeth his wife he had 2 daughters, Rebecca and Abigail, both bapt. at St. Chad's.]

1644. Nicholas Prowde (see DIDDLEBURY). After 11 or 12 years he removed to Diddlebury, and afterwards was preferred in Ireland, where he died. [He was Archdeacon of Cashel in Ireland, but left on account of the rebellion there; and in 1644 was appointed Minister of St. Mary's, but was ejected when Shrewsbury fell into the hands of the Parliamentarians. He was B.D. See Owen and Blakeway, ii., 378.]

1655. Brian Ambler (see LIDBURY and LIDHAM), removed to Lidbury. [He

	was postmaster of Merton Coll., Oxon, 1650; rector of Lydham, 1661, and vicar of Lidbury North, 1667, where he was buried 18 Sept., 1686. By Mary his wife he had 2 children, and by Frances 10 children, all bapt. at Lidbury North. He was, perhaps, son of John Ambler, vicar of Lidbury North, who was bur. there 21 Sept., 1627, aged 82.]	
1661, Oct. 28.	Richard Warter, sep. 3 Oct., 1678, under ye Communion Table in ye Church, aged 41. A native of Shrewsbury. In his time ye Vicarage House was burnt down and rebuilt. [He matriculated at Merton College, Oxford, 10 March, 1656-7; B.A., 1661; M.A. from Queen's College, Cambridge, 1665. He married Martha, dau. of John Offley, of Ince, Co. Chester, gent.]	Dame Cecilia Edwards, widow, mother, and curator of Sir Francis Edwards, Bart.
1679, March 31.	John Lowe, B.A. (see ST. ALKMUND), resigned 1680. Curate to Dr. Hayward at St. Chad's, and afterwards vicar of St. Alkmund's [from 1684, until his death 29 April, 1734. He was buried at St. Alkmund's May 1st, aged 82 years and 9 months. His widow, Mary Lowe, was buried at St. Alkmund's 29 Nov., 1735, aged 84. Their son Robert was bapt. at St. Alkmund's in 1684, and their daughter Mary bur. there in 1688. He was son of Jeremiah Lowe; born at Bridgnorth, 1651; matric. at All Souls', Oxon, 11 Dec., 1668, then aged 17, as "pauper puer;" B.A., 1672.]	Sir Francis Edwards, Bart.
1680, Nov. 9.	Jonathan Edwards (see WESTBURY), ob. 1705. Brother to Sir Francis Edwards, Patron of the Vicarage. Afterwards rector of the second portion of Westbury. He lived at Marton, in the parish of Chir-	Sir Francis Edwards, Bart.

	bury. [He was the son of Thomas Edwards, afterwards created a Baronet; born at Shrewsbury c. 1657-8; matric. at Balliol Coll., Oxon, 26 March, 1675, æt. 17; B.A. from Hart Hall, 1678. He married, in 1691, Mary, dau. and coh. of Thomas Bray, of Marton, and had 2 sons. His grandson, Sir Thomas, became 7th Baronet.]	
1705	Richard Cock, ob. Aug. 9, 1709, at Brompton, where he was born; buried at Berrington Aug. 13th. Curate here for 10 years.	Sir Francis Edwards, Bart.
1709-10, Mar. 6.	John Cotton, M.A. (see HANWOOD and ST. ALKMUND'S) sep. 29 December, 1757. [Rector of Hanwood 1716-34; and vicar of St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury 1734-57. He married, at Sutton, 26 May, 1712, Elizabeth Marigold, and had issue 14 children, bapt. at Meole Brace. His wife Elizabeth died 11, and was bur. at Meole Brace 14 Nov., 1742, æt. 51. He was son of Richard Cotton and Sarah, and was bapt. at St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, 24 Feb., 1685. He died 26 Dec., 1757. In the tower of the present Church are two monuments to his family.]	Sir Francis Edwards, Bart.
1758, Jan. 27	John Allen, M.A. Vicar of Lyonshall, Co. Hereford; sep. 23 March, 1778.	Lord Malpas.
1778, April 1.	John Bather, sep. 1 Nov., 1796; son of John Bather, of Shrewsbury, gent. [Inducted 4 Ap., 1778; matriculated at Christ Church, Oxon, 6 June, 1768, then aged 16; born at Shrewsbury, 1751; d. 26 Oct., 1796, aged 45; Mon. Inscr. in the tower of Meole Brace Church. He married Martha Hannah, dau of the Rev. James Hallifax, D.D., vicar of Whitchurch. His widow died 30 August, 1824.]	John Bather, of The Bank.

1796, Dec. 27.	Henry Cay Adams, M.A. [Vicar of Stoddesdon 5 Aug., 1804; son of John Adams, gent.; born at Shrewsbury, 1763; matriculated at Pemb. Coll., Oxon, 15 Dec., 1781, then aged 18; B.A. from Ch. Ch., 1785; M.A., 1788.]	Martha Hannah Bather, widow and executrix of Rev. John Bather.
1804, May 20.	Edward Bather [inducted 22nd; son of the Rev. John Bather vicar of Meole Brace; born at Shrewsbury, 1780; matric. at Oriel College, Oxford, 15 June, 1798, then aged 18; B.A., 1803; M.A., 1808; Archdeacon of Salop, 28 Jan., 1828; Prebendary of Lichfield, 15 Nov., 1828; died 3 Oct., 1847, æt. 67; bur. at Meole Brace; Mon. Inscr. in the tower of Meole Brace Church He married 1st, Emma, dau. of the Rev. Robert Hallifax, of Standish, Co. Glouc., and 2nd, Mary, dau. of the Right Rev. Samuel Butler, D.D., Lord Bishop of Lichfield. He was Lord of the Manor of Meole Brace, and Patron of the Vicarage. He was the author of "Hints on the art of Catechizing, to which is prefixed a Charge on Scriptural Education delivered in 1835," "Sermons on Old Testament Histories," &c.	Martha Hannah Bather.
1847.	Edward Bather, M.A., Merton Coll., Oxon; son of John Bather, Esq., Recorder of Shrewsbury, and nephew of the preceding Vicar; b. at Dinthill, 1817, d. at Bournemouth, 15 March, 1851, aged 33; Lord of the Manor of Meole Brace, and Patron of the Vicarage. He mar. Maria, dau. of the Rev. Chas. Powell, rector of Munslow.	Edward Bather.
1851.	Thomas Bucknall Lloyd, M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb.; son of John Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Shrewsbury, by Harriet, dau. of the Right Rev.	John Bather, of the Day-house.

	Samuel Butler, D.D., Lord Bishop of Lichfield; Vicar of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1854-88; Incumbent of Berwick. 1876-77; Rector of Edgmond, 1888; Prebendary of Lichfield, 1870; Archdeacon of Salop, 1886. He mar. Sophia Elizabeth, dau. of the Rev. Percival Spearman Wilkinson, of Mount Oswald, Durham.	
1854, Nov. 28.	James Bell, M.A., St. Cath. Coll., Camb.; resigned Meole Brace, 1858; Warden of Holy Trinity Hospital and Curate of Chapel Lawn, Clun, 1863-68; Rector of Brotton Parva, Co. York, 1868-94; died 1894.	John Bather.
1858.	Henry Francis Bather, M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb.; youngest son of John Bather, Esq., Recorder of Shrewsbury; b. 1832; Rector of Sutton since 1887; Prebendary of Hereford, 1878-92; Rural Dean of Pontesbury, 1883-92; Prebendary of Eau Withington; Canon-residentiary of Hereford, and Archdeacon of Ludlow since 1891. He mar. 1857, Elizabeth Mary, dau. of the Rev. T. D. Atkinson, vicar of Rugeley, Co. Stafford. The present Vicar of Meole Brace.	John Bather.

For many of these additions I am indebted to the Ven. Archdeacon Bather.—Ed.]

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS OF MEOLE BRACE.

(From the late G. Morris's Shropshire Registers, &c.)

N.B.—The old Register is lost.

1678, Oct. 3. Richard Warter, Vicar, bur.
1681, Ap. 3. Mrs. Martha Warter, bur.
1689. Collected for y^e^ Irish Protestants, £1 17s. 2d.
1690, July 3. Collected for y^e^ Irish Protestants, 17s. 3d.
1689, Oct. 15. Mr. Thomas Owen and Mrs. Mary Walthol, both of Pontesbury, mar.
1690, Sept. 17. Henry Purslowe and Anne Corbet, both of Worthin, mar.

1694, Sept. 17. Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Robert Whittingham, Curate, bur.
1694, Sept. 18. Mary, dau. of Mr. Robert Whittingham, bur.
1701, Nov. 1. Robert Jones, of y^e^ Dairy house, bur.
1708, July 20. Mr. Edward Lloyd bur.
1709. Mr. Richard Cock, died at Brompton Aug. 9, bur. at Berrington 11th.
1709, Mar. 6. John Cotton, A.M., Vicar, instituted, inducted 13th, æt. 24.
1711, Oct. 12. Mrs. Elizabeth Webb, widow, bur., aged 50. She bequeathed £5 to be distributed to the poor at her burial.
1711, Jan. 13. Mrs. Jane Lloyd bur., aged 84.
1712, May 26. John Cotton, Vicar, and Elizabeth Marigold, of St. Chad, mar. at Sutton chapel.
1713, June 8. Robert Betton, of Pulley, yeoman, bur., aged 74.
1713. Elizabeth, dau. of John Cotton, Vicar, and Elizabeth, b. Nov. 9, bapt. 28; bur. 1752.
1714. Thomas, son of ditto, b. Nov. 5, bapt. 26; bur. 1734.
1715. John, son of ditto, b. Nov. 23, bapt. Dec. 14.
1717. Sarah, dau. of ditto, b. April 6, bapt. 12; bur. May 6, 1719.
1718. Martha, dau. of ditto, b. April 28, bapt. May 20; bur. 1735.
1719. Mary, dau. of ditto, b. Aug. 8, bapt. 28.
1720. Sarah, dau. of ditto, b. Oct. 25, bapt. Nov. 15; bur. 1750; being the 7th child born, and 6th now living.
1721. Jane, dau. of ditto, b. Dec. 5, bapt. 27; bur. 1740; being the 8th child born, and 7th now living.
1716. John Cotton, Vicar, inducted to Rectory of Hanwood, Sept. 4.
1719. N.B.—4 Dutch Elms were planted on y^e^ West side of y^e^ Vicarage.
1722. Jan. 29. Mr. John Topp, of Westbury, and Mrs. Ursula Offley, of Pontesbury, mar.
1723. William Hurred, a souldier of Brigad' Stanwix's Reg^t^ was encamped in Kingsland within y^s^ p'sh, mar. Sept. 23. This Reg^t^ was encamped from y^e^ latter end of June till y^e^ last day of Sep^tr^.
1723. Edward, son of John Cotton, Vicar, and Elizabeth, b. June 26, bapt. July 17; bur. 1724; being the 9th child born, and 8th living.
1724. Edward, son of ditto, b. July 1, bapt. 23; being the 10th child born, and 8th living.

1725. Richard, son of ditto, b. Nov. 1, bapt. 22; being the 11th child born, and 9th living.
1727. Elinor, dau. of ditto, b. April 28, bapt. May 19; bur. 1730.
1728. Priscilla, dau. of ditto, b. Jan. 30, bapt. Feb. 24 at St. Julian, where her father was bapt. upon the same day of the same month 43 years before, viz., Feb. 24, 1685.
1730. Elinor, dau. of ditto, bur. Jan. 14; d. 12th.
1732. Jonathan, son of ditto, b. June 5, bapt. 28; bur. 1740.
1734. John Cotton, Vicar of this parish, and Rector of Hanwood, was inducted to St. Alkmond's June 15.
1734, Aug. 8. Sir Francis Edwards, Bart., Impropriator and Patron of y^e^ Vicarage, bur., aged 36.
1734. John Cotton, Vicar, resigned Hanwood Rectory, Oct. 17.
1734, Jan. 8. Thomas Cotton, son of John Cotton, Vicar, and Elizabeth, bur., æt. 20: a Student of Magd. Coll., Camb. (bur. from St. Alkmond's.)
1735, May 8. Martha, dau. of ditto, bur. from St. Alkmund's.
1740, Dec. 20. Jonathan, son of ditto, bur. from St. Alkmund's; d. 17th.
1740, Jan. 20. Jane, dau. of ditto, bur. from St. Alkmund's d. 17th.
1742, June 1. Richard Corbet of Much Wenlock, and Mrs. Mary Skrymster of St. Chad's, mar.
1742, Nov. 14. Elizabeth, wife of John Cotton, Vicar, bur., æt. 51.
1745, May 21. Mrs. Francis Waring, spinster, bur. from St. Chad.
1589, 31 Eliz. The Patronage and Impropriation of Meole Brace was in the hands of Elizabeth Bannister of Wem, widow.
1663. Mr. Joseph Offley lived at y^e^ Dairy house, whose niece Mr. Richard Warter married.
1669. The Castle House at Meole burnt down.
1722. A short account of some of my Predecessors in the Vicarage of Brace Meole alias Meole Brace, collected partly from y^e^ Register and partly from information of ancient parishioners and others.

JOHN COTTON.

1. SHERER, Mr. John, had 5 children bapt. here, the eldest of them Dec. 15, 1573, from which time to his death was upwards of 45 years, tho' 'tis uncertain when he became Vicar, yet it is probable that he was so for that space of time, and Mr. Robert Sherer, clerk, buried Dec. 18, 1573, might be his father and possibly his predecessor. He bur. his 1st wife Nov. 9, 1597, married another April 16, 1618, being succeeded by

2. Poole. Mr. Richard, who continued Vicar 25 years, he was also Rector of Hanwood, which benefice he held together with this during 10 years, viz., from y^e^ latter end of 1627 to y^e^ latter end of 1637. He afterwards became Minister of St. Chad, which he held together with Meole Brace to his death. He was buried in St Chad's Church, March 7, 1643-4.
3. Prowde, Mr. Nicholas, succeeded in ye beginning of 1644. After 11 or 12 years he removed to Diddlebury, which place he held with another in that neighbourhood, and was afterwards preferred in Ireland, where he died.
4. Ambler, Mr. Brian, followed about the latter end of 1655, and about 7 years after became Vicar of Lidbury North near Bishop's Castle, being succeeded here by
5. Warter, Mr. Richard, a native of Shrewsbury. In his time the Vicarage House was burnt down and rebuilt. After about 16 years he died here aged 41, and was buried Oct. 3, 1678, under y^e^ Communion Table in y^e^ Church.
6. Lowe, Mr. John, then Curate to Dr. Hayward at St. Chad's, and afterwards to this day Vicar of St. Alkmond's, was instituted Vicar of y^s^ Church to prevent a lapse, and continued so for about 3 months till y^e^ intended Vicar obtained Deacon's orders and Priest's, and y^n^ resigned [he died April 29, 1734, æt. 83, bur. St. Alkmond's.] for y^e^ benefit of
7. Edwards, Mr. Jonathan, brother to Sir Francis Edwards, Bart., Patron of the Vicaridge. After some time he became Rector of y^e^ 2nd Portion of Westbury. Mr. Robert Whittingham and Mr. Richard Cock were successively his Curates here; he lived at Marton, on an estate of his own, in y p'sh of Chirbury, and there died 1705.
8. Cock, Mr. Richard, succeeded, having been Curate for about 10 years. He continued Vicar but 4 years, dying at Brompton, y^e^ place of his nativity, Aug. 9, 1709, and was buried at Berrington, Aug. 11.

These were all married men; and had all of them issue, except Mr. Warter and Mr. Cock. None of them were buried here, but Mr. Sherer and Mr. Warter.

The Monumental Inscription on Mr. Warter, as copied on the first page of the Register, states that he married Martha, dau. of John Offley of Ince, in Co. Pal. of Chester, gen., and

Jane his wife. He died Oct. 3, 1678, æt. 41. Stone under Communion Table.

On stone next adjoining:—Jane, relict of Reece Lloyd of Counce in the p'sh of Llangadva, Co. Montgomery, gent., and dau. of Peter Middleton of Middleton in Co. Salop, Esq. Also Edward Lloyd, gent., son and heir of s[d] Reece Lloyd. He was bur. July 20, 1708, and she Jan. 13, 1711-12, in the 85th year of her age.

OTHER EXTRACTS FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS.

1734, August. Sir Francis Edwards, Baronett, Impropriator and Patron of this Vicarage, buried the 8th, aged 36. He lies in a large vaulted grave within the Chancell Rails. He was the ffourth Baronet of the Family, and the first that was buried in this Church. His Estate goes to his Lady, and for his only Daughter: but the Title, for want of Male Issue, goes to Henry Edwards, Esq., Town-Clerk of Shrewsbury, his Grandfather's Brother's Son, now Sir Henry Edwards, Bart. Lady Edwards sent the Vicar two Guineas for the ffuneral and Chancell Ground.

1759. Dame Elenor Edwards, Wife of Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., buried Feb. 27.

1767. Edwards, Sir Henry, from St. Chadd's, buried Mar. 31.

1778. Allen, The Rev. John, of The Castle, St. Mary's, Vicar of the Parish of Meole 20 years, and likewise of Lyonshall in the County of Hereford, bur. March 23.

1780. Bather, Edward, son of John and Martha Hannah, bapt. April 2.

1781. Bather, John (son of J. and Martha H.), bapt. Sept. 30.

1782. Bather, John, son of J. and Martha H., bapt. Sept. 30.

1783. Bather, Martha, bapt. Jan. 16.

1796. Bather, Rev. John, the much respected Vicar of this Parish for 18 years, buried Nov. 1.

1810. Bather, John, buried Feb. 5.

1823. Miss Martha Bather, Meole Brace, April 5. 40. buried by Hugh Owen.

1824. Rev. Charles Peters, Rector of Pontesbury, 2nd Portion, Pontesbury, April 13. 56. E. Bather, Vicar.

1824. Peter Beck, Esq., Kingsland, June 4. 63. John Langley, Officiating Minister.

1824. Mrs. Martha Hannah Bather, relict of the late John Bather, Vicar, Meole Brace, Sept. 4. 66. Hugh Owen.

1832. Samuel Beck, Shrewsbury, March 5. 22. E. Bather, Vicar.

1836. John Yerrow Arrowsmith, of the Parish of St. Chad in Shrewsbury, and Frances Scarth of this Parish were married, Sept. 6.

1839. John Bather, Esquire, Dint Hill, Nov. 15. 58 years. M. Kinsey.

1839. Mary Eleanor Scarth, Meole Brace, Oct. 12. 19 years. M. Kinsey, Curate.

1847. Edward Bather, Vicar of this Parish, and Archdeacon of Salop, Meole Brace, Oct. 8th. 67 years. Wm. S. Burd, Curate.

1853. John Bucknall, son of Thos. Bucknall and Sophia Elizabeth Lloyd, Meole Brace, Esq., bapt. March 27.

1854. Edward William, son of John and Isabella Bather, Dayhouse, Esq., bapt. March 5, by C. Wilkinson, Curate.

The parish of Meole Brace includes the townships of Pulley, Nobold, Newton, and Edgebold. Some alteration was made in the parish boundaries in 1885. The population at the census of 1891 was 1,608, exclusive of the Schools. A census taken by the Vicar in the spring of 1794 gave 379 males and 390 females, total 769, exclusive of the residents in the House of Industry—nearly double the population 50 years previously. The area is about 2,488 acres. Meole Brace probably takes its name from the Mill which anciently stood on the banks of the Meole brook (or Rea river), which flows through the parish. Mr. Duignan connects it with the Welsh word *moel*, a hill; but this derivation scarcely seems probable, looking at the nature of the ground. (See Owen and Blakeway, ii., 5n; Shrop. Arch. *Trans.*, N.S., vi., 12). Brace is of course taken from the de Braci family, who held the manor.

The following inhabitants were taxed to the Lay Subsidy of 1 Edw. III., 1327, and paid the sums set against their names:—Meole Bracy. Madyn de Meole 2s. 6d.; Regin. de Lutle 12d.; Adulph de Bracy 5s.; Walter le Foremo' 18d.; William la Souche 8s.

From an early date Meole Brace occurs amongst the "Libertates Wardæ Lapideæ." In a Court Roll of 1392-3 it is called "Mole Bracy."

The old Castle House and the Tithe Barn adjoining were burnt down in 1669. The Castle Bank, where it probably stood, lies in the Hall grounds. A mulberry tree was planted during the incumbency of Archdeacon Edward Bather, and marks the place where some remains were found. The present Hall was rebuilt and enlarged by Archdeacon Edward Bather. The Day House (or Dairy House, as it was formerly called) also belongs to the Bather family.

A Hospital for nine inmates, who each receive yearly £8 and a ton of coal, was erected in 1844 by John Evans of Shrewsbury. It has the inscription—"Evans's Hospital, Erected A.D. 1844."

The Shrewsbury School was removed to Kingsland in the parish of Meole Brace in 1882. The School-house was originally erected in 1765.

as a Foundling Hospital, for the reception of orphans from the Foundling Hospital in London, at the cost of £12,000. This was, however, discontinued in 1774, and it afterwards served as a place of confinement for Dutch prisoners of war. In 1784, it was sold for £5,500, for the purpose of a House of Industry or Workhouse, the average number of inmates in 1824 being about 340. It was finally sold to the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School, and was converted into a School-house in 1882.[1] The suburb of Kingsland (or Chingsland, as it is written in a Norman grant) was long used by the freemen of Shrewsbury as a pasturage for their cattle, and part of it by the various Trades Gilds of Shrewsbury, who resorted in procession to their various Arbours erected upon it on the second Monday after Trinity Sunday. Since the removal of the School to Kingsland, the suburb has become a fashionable neighbourhood, a number of large dwelling-houses having been erected upon it.

MEOLE BRACE CHARITIES.

The Report of the Charity Commissioners for Salop, vol. xxvii., pp. 447-8, mentions the following Charities belonging to the parish of Meole Brace :—

John Chessus, who died 19 June, 1762, left £10 for bread for the poor, to be given on St. John's Day.

Samuel Povey, who died 19 Jan., 1770, left £10 10s. for bread for the poor, to be given on Easter Sunday.

Mary Jones, widow, left by her will in 1758 a rent-charge of £5 to the poor, which was void under the statute of 9 Geo. II., c. 36.

Jean Penaud, who died 25 Jan., 1828, left £50 to the poor, the interest to be given annually by the Minister and Churchwardens.

The Benefaction Boards in the tower of the Church record the above, and also the following :—

John Evans, of Shrewsbury, in 1842 left £100, the interest to be given to the poor.

Mrs. Bather, widow of Archdeacon Bather, who died 26 Dec., 1853, left £100, the interest to be applied for the benefit of Meole Day and Sunday Schools, at the discretion of the Minister.

John Smith, Esq , of Radbrook House, by will dated Nov. 26, 1863, left £100, the interest to be applied in bread, coal, or blankets for the poor.

Mary Flavel, of Pulley, who died March, 1868, left £200, the interest to be given to the poor.—Ed.]

[We are indebted to Mr. Wallace Heath, of Shrewsbury, for the photograph from the original engraving of Meole Old Church, which is here enlarged and reproduced.—Ed.]

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[1] [See *History of Shrewsbury School*, 1889, p. 233, &c.—Ed.]

ONSLOW.

ONSLOW is written in Domesday Andrelau. It was then one of the estates of the Collegiate Church of St. Chad, Shrewsbury; as it had also been in the Saxon times. Its arable land had been estimated at one hide as early as the imposition of the Danegeld; and it had made no progress towards further cultivation during the interval which elapsed between that period, and the time of the Norman Survey, for in this last document it was estimated only at one carucata,[1] *i.e.*, no more than its former extent. Indeed it had been waste, though at the date of Domesday it was occupied by three villans.

The fee continued in the Church in 24 Edw. I., when, in the Iter of that date,[2] it is found that Roger Onslowe held Onslowe of the fee of St. Chad's by the rent of 4s., the precise value at which it was estimated at Domesday; and a similar entry appears in the Iter of Henry III.

11 Edw. III. (1337), Thomas de Hampton and Julian my wife, daughter of William de Bigdon, grant to Agnes our daughter a messuage and virgate in Ondeslowe. [Seal tricked.]

21 Rich. II. (1397), Richard, son of Roger Waryng of Shelton, grants his lands in Wodecote to feoffees—H. T. Thome de Ondeslowe, lord of Ondeslowe.

1471, Richd. Pursell of Onslow [which I suppose to be Dinthill (Note by Bowen)], frankelyn, exchanges lands with Robt. Onslow, lord of Onslow.

20 Nov., 15 Jac. I. (1617), Edw. Onslow of Onslow, Esq., sells the manor and estate of Onslow to Thomas Harris of Salop, Esq., for £2,220.

1658, Sir Thomas Harris of Boreacton, Bart., sells the manor of Onslow to Thomas Harper.

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[1] [Not carucata, but caruca (ox-team).—ED.]

[2] [Eyton assigns the date 1279 to this Iter or Pimhill Tenure Roll. —ED.]

Thomas Fownes, Esq., sold Onslow to Richard Morhall,[1] Esq., for 10,000 guineas [in 1763].

[This account of ONSLOW is meagre and imperfect. In Domesday, one moiety of the Manor was in the Hundred of Bascherch, and was held by the Church of St. Chad; whilst the other moiety was in Ruesset Hundred, and was held by Robert fitz Corbet under Earl Roger de Montgomery.[2] This latter moiety is not noticed by Blakeway. The entries in Domesday are as follows:—"St. Chad's Church held and holds Andrelau. Here is 1 hide, geldable. It was waste. Here iij villains have one ox-team. It is worth 4s." "Robert (fitz Corbet) holds Andreslaue of the Earl, and Ernui holds it of him. The same (Ernui) held it, and was a free man. Here is 1 hide, geldable. In the demesne is one ox-team, and (there are) iij villains with one team. It was worth 10s., now 12s. (per annum.)"

Earl Roger's moiety descended to the Boterells, as Robert Corbet's co-heirs, and seem to have been held under them by the Arundels. In the Ford Hundred Roll of 1255, John de Arundel is said to hold one geldable hide in Ondeslawe under the Manor of Longedon.[3] St. Chad's moiety was also held by the Arundels.

In 1190 Adam de Hundreslawe occurs. In 1203 there was a suit between John de Ondeslawe and William de Bikedon, concerning a right of common between Onslow and Bicton. In 1236 Roger de Ondeslawe occurs, also in 1256 and 1273, as a juror, and in 1284 as holding St. Chad's moiety. Richard de Ondeslawe was a juror in 1256, and John de Ondeslawe in 1292, both for Ford Hundred, whilst William de Onslow was juror for Pimhill Hundred in 1292. This shows that the Domesday distinction between the two moieties of Onslow, placing them in different Hundreds, lasted for centuries: when both shares were absorbed in the Liberties of Shrewsbury, this distinction was destroyed. In 1302, John le Mouner and Katherine his wife granted two messuages and lands in Ondeslowe to Richard Goumond and Agnes his wife.[4]

In 1327, the following inhabitants of Ondeslowe in the Hundred of Pemenhull' were assessed to the Lay Subsidy:—John de Halle, Roger Warynge, Hugh Crompe, John de Walleſes, William fil Alan, William de Leton, and William le Dekene.

By an Inquisition taken in October, 1515, it was found that part

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[1] [Richard Morhall, of Onslow, was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1770. He was son of Thomas Morhall and Mary, dau. of Richard Lister of Rowton, and was born 30 June, 1737. He married 26 Sept., 1768, Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Eyton of Eyton, and died 11 Nov., 1806. See Blakeway's *Sheriffs*.—ED.]

[2] See Eyton, vii., 171-2, and x., 169, 170.

[3] Rot. Hundr., ii., 66.

[4] Cf. Eyton, *ubi sup.*

of Onneslowe was within and of the parish of St. Chad, and had been taxed to fifteenths and tenths; and that part of Onneslow was within the Hundred of Ford, and had also been taxed to fifteenths and tenths.[1] On 28 Feb., 1543, the Dean and Chapter of St. Chad's demised the revenues of their college for 61 years to Humphrey Onslow of Onslow.[2] He was admitted a burgess of Shrewsbury in 1519, and was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1566. St. Chad's moiety seems to have been both rent-free and tithe-free. In the Court-Books, Onslow appears amongst the Liberties of the Welsh Ward.

In 1580, the following inhabitants of Onnslowe occur amongst the trained soldiers:—Mr. Ric. Purcell, Rees Tyther and Hughe his men; Mr. Edward Ownslowe, Thomas Williams and Thomas Baker his men; Edward Ownslowe, George Bloure, Adam Fforten; Richard Chidloe, and Griffithe ap Rees his man.[3] In 1587, these names occur under Onslowe:—Edward Onslowe, Esq., and John Lingham and John Minors his servants; Edward Purcell, and Robert Powell and Hughe ap Pue his servants; Adam Forten, Edward Forten his son, and John Smithe his servant; Richard Chidley, George Blower, and John Roberts.[4]

Pedigrees of the families of Onslow of Onslow, and Purcell of Onslow, were entered at the Heralds' Visitation of Shropshire in 1623.

Richard Morhall, the purchaser of the Manor and estate of Onslow in 1763 from Thomas Fownes, sold it in 1780 to Rowland Wingfield, Esq., of Preston Brockhurst. The descent of Onslow in the Wingfield family is as follows:—

I. Rowland Wingfield, who purchased Onslow in 1780, born 1728, High Sheriff of Shropshire 1753, married 23 June, 1764, Mary, dau. of Sir Walter Wagstaffe Bagot, 5th Bart., and had issue three sons (1) John, (2) Charles, and (3) Rowland. He was succeeded by his eldest son,—II. John Wingfield of Onslow, Lieut.-Colonel in the Army, High Sheriff 1814, born 18 July, 1769, and died s.p. 31 Aug, 1862. He was succeeded by his nephew,—III. Charles John Wingfield (eldest son of Charles Wingfield and Emma, dau. of Richard Jenkins of Bicton), of Onslow, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff 1873, born 21 Ap., 1838, died 5 May, 1891, married 1 Feb., 1865, his cousin Jane Mary Anne, dau. of Clopton Lewis Wingfield, Esq., of Rhysnant, by whom he had issue (with a daughter, Constance Adela) an only son,—IV. Charles Ralph Borlase Wingfield, born 27 Oct., 1873, now of Onslow.

The Arms of Wingfield are, *Argent* on a bend cotised *sable* three pairs of wings conjoined of the first. Pedigrees of Wingfield may be found in Burke's *Landed Gentry* and in Blakeway's *Sheriffs of Shrop-*

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[1] Cf. *Transactions*, 2 Ser., ii., 73.

[2] Owen and Blakeway, ii., 201.

[3] Cf. *Transactions*, 2 Ser., ii., 279.

[4] *Ibid.*, iii., 141.

shire. The family is one of great antiquity, having been seated in Derbyshire at a very early date, and coming into Shropshire early in the seventeenth century.

The oldest portion of the present House was built by the Onslows. It was added to by Colonel John Wingfield (who died 1862); and still further enlarged by Colonel Charles John Wingfield, the late owner.—Ed.]

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS OF ST. CHAD'S, SHREWSBURY.

(From the late Geo. Morris's Shropshire Registers, &c.)

1620, Feb. 25. John, son of Mr. Tho. Wingfield, bapt.
1621, Mar. 7. Mr. Robert Onslow, of Byckonn, bur.
1623, Sept. 21. Rebecca, d. of Mr. Tho. Wynfild, bapt.
1624, Sept. 13. Edward, s. of Ric. and Kath. Onslowe, bapt.
1626, Apr. 27. Mary, d. of Ric. and Mary Onslow, bapt.
1626, July 27. Ann, wife of Mr. Arthur Onslow, bur.
1629, Oct. 29. Rebecca, d. of Mr. Tho. Wingfield, bur.
1629, Jan. 18. Mrs. Margaret Onslowe, widow, bur.
1633, Nov. 19. Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Tho. Wingfyld, bur.
1642, Nov. 2. Mr. Tho. Wingfield, Alderman, bur.
1647, Mar. 12. Richard, s. of Mr. Sam. and Eliz. Wingfield, bapt.
1648, Sept. 10. Richard, s. of Mr. Tho. and Eliz. Onslowe, bapt.
1651, Nov. 11. John, s. of Mr. John and Howard Wingfield, bapt.
1652, Mar. 17. Jonathan, s. of Mr. John and Howard Wingfield, bapt.
1660, Aug. 21. Martha, d. of Mr. Samuel Wingfield, born.
1666, Dec. 7. Thomas, s. of Mr. John Winfield, bur.
1672, Feb. 4. Samuel Wingfield, Esq., of Preston Brockhurst, bur.
1683, July 5. John, s. of Mr. John Wingfield, mercer, and Eliz., bapt.
1687, Jan. 8. Thomas, s. of Mr. John and Margt. Wingfield, bapt.
1728, April 22. Anne, d. of Dr. Wingfield, bapt.
1728, Feb. 18. Mrs. Anne Wingfield, bur.
1741, Mar. 15. Anne, d. of Borlace Wingfield, Esq., bur.
1760, July 2. Rev. John Tombes Wingfield, of St. Julian's, and Mrs. Barbara Fowler, mar.
1789, May 31. Lewis, s. of Rowland Wingfield, Esq., æt. 12, bur.

PRESTON MONFORD.

[A blank page occurs here in the MS.]

Itin^r Hen. III., Robt. Hunger of Preston, used to do suit at y^e county and at Ford hundred, for Preston, in y^e time of Henry de Audley then sheriff: but upon Robert's death, and y^e entry of y^e abbot of Lilleshull by y^e gift of Robt. de Bulers of Montgomery, y^e said suit has been subtracted for 20 years last past. 3 Hen.[1]

Carta venerabilis viri domini Roberti de Budlers[2] de Preston Moneford. Omnibus Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Robertus de Budlers Salutem. In nomine sancte & individue Trinitatis noscant omnes tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Robertus de Budlers divino intuitu pro salute anime mee & uxoris mee Hillarie Trussebut & pro animabus antecessorum meorum reddo & quietum clamo Deo & Sancte Marie Beate Virgini & ecclesie de Lilleshulle & abbati & canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus Prestonam juxta pontem de Moneford cum omnibus pertinentiis suis liberam & quietam a me & meis heredibus sicut jus & feudum & tenementum S. Alcmundi de Salop, quam Prestonam fateor & recognosco me & antecessores meos injuste tenuisse & ab ecclesia S. Alcmundi injuste alienasse: quapropter [qu. cum contra] res ecclesiasticas minuere, substrahere & alienare non debemus, set sublata restituere & protegere Ego Robertus de Budlers veniam petans a Domino Jesu Christo hanc predictam redditionem de Prestona & quiet. clam. concedo & hac presenti carta mea confirmo & sigilli mei impressione & appositione conf. & ego [contra ?] & heredes mei hanc jam dictam redditionem & quiet. clam. & concessionem & sigilli appositionem warantizamus & contra omnes homines warrantizamus. H. T. . . (Ex cartularis abbatie, ap. Dodsw. v. 109.)

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[1] [Henry de Audley was Sheriff of Shropshire *circa* 1227—1232. Robert Hunger seems to have been the Abbot of Lilleshull's tenant at Preston, and died about 1235. See the Hundred Rolls, ii., 66; Eyton, vii., 195.—Ed.]

[2] [Robert de Budlers or Bollers was lord of Montgomery in 1176, and died in 1203. By this Charter, he quits claim to Lilleshall Abbey, the Vill of Preston, as the right and fee of St. Alkmund's, and confesses that he and his ancestors had unjustly held and alienated it from the Church of St. Alkmund, and seeks pardon for that sin.—Ed.]

2 Edward II. (1308), Rog. le Fox filius Joh'is de Preston j'x' pontem de Moneford grants to his son William y^e^ clerk 6 & ½ acres in campis de Preston.

S. D. Mich. fil. Reyneri Ruffi & Marg'ie ux' mee grant to Ri. our son and his wife Alice, daughter of Hen. de Echgebaldenham ½ a virgate in Preston j'x' pontem de Moneford. H. T. : D'n'o Godefrido tu'c vicar. eccl. S. Alkm. Sal., Alano Spremhose, Rog. de Hondeslowe.

[The foregoing account of PRESTON MONTFORD is very incomplete. At Domesday the Manor was a divided one.[1] The larger portion occurs in Ruesset Hundred, and belonged to St. Alkmund's Church :— "The same Church held and still holds Prestone. Here is one hide, geldable. In demesne there is one ox-team, and two villains with one ox-team. Its former value was 8s. ; it is now worth 5s. Eluuard holds it." The smaller portion was in Baschurch Hundred, and was held by Roger (either fitz Corbet or de Lacy, it is not certain which) under Earl Roger :—"Roger holds of the Earl Prestone. Godric held it, and was a free man. Here is one virgate of land. In demesne is half an ox-team. It was worth, and is now worth iijs. There is a wood capable of feeding ten pigs." The possessions of St Alkmund's, about 1145, passed to Lilleshall Abbey. On August 31, 1199, King John confirms to Lilleshall Abbey their possessions, including Preston juxta Moneford, as appurtenances of St. Alkmund's Church.[2] By an Inquisition taken in September, 1317, it was found that Roger de Forde held a virgate in Preston-juxta-Moneford under the Abbot of Lilleshall at the rent of 3s., and that Hugh de Forde was his son and heir. From the association of the smaller part of Preston with Montford (which also belonged to Roger at Domesday), the whole of Preston got the name of Preston Montford. The connection between Preston and Montford lasted no longer than Domesday, except in name. Earl Roger's virgate in Montford seems to have become annexed to the St. Alkmund's portion, going with it to Lilleshall Abbey, and ultimately to have fallen with it into the Liberties of Shrewsbury.[3]

In 1327, the following inhabitants of Prestone, in the Hundred of Pemenhall, were assessed to the Lay Subsidy :—Roger de Prestone, Richard de Shawebur', Alan de Staunton, William Addeson, Geoffrey le Wodeward, John de Addesone, John Bercar', William Gogh, William fil' Isabell, William fil' Fabri, and John Grey.

Preston Montford continued to belong to Lilleshall Abbey, until its dissolution in 1538. The Minister's Accounts of 1541 show that the Abbey had received 12s. for profits of the tithes of Preston Mountforth.

[1] Cf. Eyton vii., 194-6, and x., 128-9.
[2] Cf. Owen and Blakeway, ii., 266 ; Walker's *Brief History of Lilleshall*,13.
[3] Eyton, vii., 194.

In 1580, the Book of the General Musters for Shrewsbury and the Liberties names the following soldiers as residing at Preston Monvart and Dyntle:—Harrie Calcot, John Calcot his man; John Hussey, John Fallows and Roger Fallows his sons-in-law; Richard Groves, William Calcot, Richard Swayne, Thomas Wright, John Lee, John Gate, and Richard Sponley.[1] In 1587 these names occur under Preston Monvert—John Fallowes, constable; Henry Calcott; John Hussey, Thomas Wighte, William ap William, John Calcott, and Richard Lewis.[2]

The pedigree of Calcott, of Preston Mountford, was duly recorded at the Heralds' Visitation of Shropshire in 1623.

The estate came ultimately into the possession of the Hill family; and in 1829 Sir Rowland Hill, the then owner, conveyed it by way of exchange to Col. John Wingfield of Onslow, Sir Francis Brian Hill being then tenant. On Col. John Wingfield's death in 1862 Preston Montford came to his nephew, Col. Charles George Wingfield, on whose decease on 5 May, 1891, it passed to his son and heir, Charles Ralph Borlase Wingfield, Esq., of Onslow, the present owner of Preston Montford.

The Report of the Charity Commissioners for Salop, vol., xxvii., pp. 240-1, states that Widow Baugh, mother of George Baugh of Shrewsbury, gave by will certain money for the purchase of lands in Preston Montford rented at 20 marks per annum, one-third to be paid to the Minister of St. Chad's and two-thirds to the poor of Shrewsbury. Certain lands formerly belonging to Sir Rowland Hill and since to John Wingfield, Esq., have been considered as charged with the payment of £13 6s. 8d., or 20 marks.—Ed.]

EXTRACTS FROM MORRIS'S SHROPSHIRE REGISTERS.

MONFORD.

1590, March 21. Johan Calcot, widow, bur.
1642, May 4. Samuel, s. of Thomas Caukat, gent., bapt.; bur. 11th.
1692, Feb. 27. Edward Bright & Mary Calcott of Ensdon, mar.

FORD.

1597, Feb. 1. Dorothy, d. of Henry Calket, bapt.
1610, Feb. 19. Alyte, d. of Henry Calcott, bapt.
1632, Aug. 10. George Calcott of H. [? Horton], bur.

ALBERBURY.

1637, Feb. 28. Henry Calcot of Ford, bur.
1660, May 7. Sarah, wife of John Callcott of Ford, bur.
1681, Jan. 3. John, s. of Francis Calcott of Ford, & Eliz., bapt.
1682, March 18. Dorothy, d. of Fras. Calcott, gent., of Ford, & Eliz., bapt.
1686, Ap. 18. Elizabeth, wife of Michael Calcott of Preston Monford, bur.

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[1] Cf. *Trans.*, 2nd Series, ii., 278-9.
[2] *Ibid.*, iii., 140.

PULLEY.

Pulley, anciently Poliley, is partly in the parish of St. Julian and liberties of Shrewsbury and partly in the parish of Brace Meole and hundred of Cundover.

That the use of a necessary of life once known to the inhabitants of a country should ever become obsolete, and that even while the soil continued to furnish the material in inexhaustible abundance, can only be accounted for by some of those tremendous convulsions of civil society which extinguish all knowledge even of the most useful arts. This was the case with fossil coal. That our British ancestors were acquainted with its use is certain: because, as Mr. Brand has observed, in the mass of erudition which he has accumulated on the subject in his *History of Newcastle*, vol. ii., pp. 241 et sqq., they had a primitive name for it, Glo; and the name of the place now before us proves the same fact: Pwlliaw, pits, evidently alluding to the coal pits upon Pulley common. Mr. Whitaker (*History of Manchester*, bk. ii., c. 8, sec. 1) adduces other proofs that the Romans and Britons used coal in this island; and the passage of Solinus, cap. 22, describing the temple of Minerva at Bath—"In cujus æde perpetui ignis nunquam canescunt in favillas, sed, ubi ignis tabuit, vertit in globos sicut"—can refer to nothing but a fire of pit coal, and the agreement by which one Wulfrede in the year 852 contracted to furnish the convent of Peterborough with "sixty fodder of wood, and twelve fodder of *græfan*" (Chron. Sax. sub ann.) proves that the Saxon invasion had not interrupted the use of this most important article, if Bishop Gibson is warranted, as I conceive him to be, in rendering this last word, *carbo fossilis*.[1] It must then have been the

[1] Græfan is certainly something *dug up*: but whether the mineral coal, or that fossil wood found in mosses, particularly Whixall moss between Wem and Whitchurch, and by many naturalists conjectured to be the basis of coal, I would not undertake positively to pronounce. I incline, however, to believe it coal. "Pulley, so-called perhaps from

Danish devastations which destroyed all knowledge of coal for nearly four centuries.

The whole of Pulley was in the Saxon times the property of Edgitha, queen of Edward the Confessor. But I suppose she held it as two manors, for its division between two parishes is, in all probability, as old as the original introduction of that mode of dividing the country.

[MORTIMER'S MANOR.]

At the time of Domesday that part of Polelie which is in the parish of Meole was held in chief of the Crown by Ralph de Mortimer, lord also of the manor of Meole. It was rated to the Danegeld at one hide and a virgate. What follows is not very intelligible. "The land is five carucates.[1] There are three radmans, and four villans and 5 bordars with vii ^{or} carucates."[1] If this means that there were five carucates in the demesne, and also seven carucates occupied by the radmans, &c., the total makes a very unusual increase of tillage in the course of less than a century. It is not easy to decide what number is designed by vii^{or}; the numerals evidently denote seven, but the termination "or" seems to belong to quatuor, four. Even nine carucates is a great many to have sprung from one hide and a quarter.

The earliest notice I find of this place after Domesday is in the chartulary of Haghmon Abbey:—Maurice de Pulilega grants to Haghmon abbey an acre in Pulleley with the buildings thereon, lying between the land of Osbern, and that of Isabella the mother of Engelard. H. T.: Roberto Infante, Andrea filio

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the Welsh 'pwll,' a ditch, there remaining to this day on Pulley common a large entrenchment." (God. Edwards.) Pulley, Pyllau, pits, plur. of pwll.

[1] [Not carucates but ox-teams. "The land is sufficient for five ox-teams. Here are three radmans, and four villains, and five boors, with seven (qu. four) ox-teams. In King Edward's time, the manor was worth 30s.; its value afterwards and now was and is 40s." Cf. Eyton, vi., 212.—Ed.]

Huberti, tunc prepositis Salopesbur', &c.[1] The two persons last named are parties soon after to another gift of land to another house of religion.

Ralph Marescall[2] of Burton, by the assent of his wife Isabel and for their souls' health and that of Thomas his son, grants to God and the altar of St. Mary in the abbey of Salop, a messuage with a croft thereunto belonging in the town of Pulileg, viz., that messuage which is before the house of Brun of Pulileg, to find light before that altar, and that the custos of that altar for the time being may manage (tractabit) the premises at his pleasure. Witnessed by Ralph his son, and Engelard de Pulileg. (C. A. S. 414.) This must have been immediately before his death, since the confirmation by Isabel, his relict, is attested by the same persons (*ib.* 415).

In 37 Henry VIII. (1545) lands and tenements in Pulley and Monks foriet were granted in free burgage to Richard and Robert Tavernor. This was, I suppose, Marescall's grant above mentioned.

This Ralph Marescall[3] had a serjeanty in the royal forest, and the Polileys were also connected with the same department. Philip de Polileye was a forester of fee in the forest of Lythewode in the reign of Edward I. Engelard de Poliley occurs in the 18th of the same King.

In the 7th of Edward I. (1278), on an hundred roll of that year, it is stated that Audulph le Bracy holds a moiety of the town of Pulleleg within the liberty of the town of Salop, and that he hath there four free tenants, viz., Elgebard de Puleleg, William fitz John, Roger Lance, and John the Welshman. Engelard de

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[1] [The date of this grant is c. 1222.—Ed.]

[2] In ye *Testa de Nevill*, 12 and 13 John, Ralph Marescoll and Tho. de Bureton owe a serjeanty of keeping Biriwode, &c.

[3] [Mareschall's estate in Pulley was in Teodulf's manor. Blakeway has very much mixed up the two manors in Pulley. Eyton's account is more intelligible. Cf. Eyton, vi., 206—213.—Ed.]

Polilley occurs in 18 Edward I. (1289). It was, perhaps, from the circumstance of his forester's residence here that Henry III. had granted to the township of Polilegh herbage in Lythwood, and that three parts of the town had been laid to the royal forest. By the Commission of 28 Edw. I. (1299) they were ordered to be deafforested.

In 9 Edw. III. (1335) it is found that Philip de Polyley held on the day of his death 6s. of yearly rent here by the service of keeping the King's hedge (haiam) within the forest of Salop, and that William de Polyley was his son and heir.

I find a William Pulleley of the Lythe in 14 Edw. IV., but no further proof of their connection with the place from which they derived their name subsequent to the date last set down.

A property here was part of the possessions of the Burnell family, for in 10 Edw. II. Sir John de Hanlo, and Maud his wife, the heiress of that house, enfeoffed Hugh le Despenser the elder, the reigning favourite of the day, and Sir William de Handlo, clerk, among other things in a rent in Polilegh. This was for the purpose of a reconveyance in tail male, in consequence of which it descended to their grandson, Hugh, Lord Burnell, who died seised thereof in 5 Henry V.

Richard Launce of Polyley married Agnes, daughter and heiress of Roger Yrons of Shelton.

18 Henry VI., "We John Launce of Polyley and Roger Yve, son of Reginald Yve of Leton, coheirs of Isabel and Johanna, daughters and heirs of Richard Launce, late of Polyley, and Agnes, his wife, who was daughter and heiress of Roger Yvors of Shelton, grant all our lands, &c., in Shelton to Roger Yve, clerke, and Richard Gery.

In the Meole part of Pulley is a farmhouse, now much modernized and greatly reduced in its dimensions, which appears to have been formerly a place of some note, from the remains of a square moat, by which it was surrounded, from an ornamented chimney, and from a

parlour bearing evident marks of antiquity. The windows were filled with roundels of stained glass, descriptive of several months of the year—March, a man digging, with a flaggon of liquor by his side; April, one frightening birds from the corn; June, a labourer weeding corn; September, threshing; November, killing a pig, which is done not by our present mode of sticking, but by felling with a hatchet; and December, an infant with crown and sceptre and covered cup, also a cypher.

[In the M.S. are eight rough drawings in circles, evidently representing the stained glass.]

On the main beam in the ceiling, in old English characters, the pious wish and moral exhortation:—"Plente and grace Be in thys place Sey well or ells be stile," and under the window was carved the devout ejaculation, "Jhu Mercy, Lady Helpe."

This house I should assign as the residence of the Polileys.

[TEODULF'S MANOR.]

Pulley in the parish of St. Julian.

The other of Queen Edgith's manors of Polelie was included in the grant to Earl Roger, under whom it was holden at the time of Domesday by one Theodulf, a small land-holder. It had been assessed to the Danegeld at three virgates. It consisted of only one carucate,[1] which Theodulf occupied himself with the assistance of one servant, but he had also two bordars.

In 37 Eliz. Richard Owen of Whitley died seised of lands and hereditaments in Pulley holden of the Queen by knight service as of her castle of Montgomery. This,

[1] [Not carucate, but ox-team. Teodulf was probably a Saxon, and soon displaced. His tenure at Pulley, being an Escheat in the hands of the Earl or King, was constituted a Serjeantry, of which Gilbert Ralph and Roger Bocharte were the first tenants. Roger Bozard died in 1194, leaving two infant daughters and co-heirs—Isabella, who married Ralph Marescall, and Alice, who married first Thomas de Echingeham and afterwards Elias de Burton.—ED.]

no doubt, was in that part of Pulley now under consideration, which, as has been stated, belonged to the Norman Roger de Montgomery.

The following belongs to the same head :—

Parcel of the late Monastery of Lilleshall: farm of one acre of land with a curtilage in Pulley within the parish of S^{t} Julians demised to David Wotton at the will of the lord,—6^{d} per ann.

This land was sould to Arthur Lowe by indenture dated the . . . . . 1610: & was by him sould back to the patentees by indenture dated the . . . . of June, 1611, & by them surrendered to y^{e} King's Majestie 19th June, 1611. (Rawlinson's MSS. in bibl. Bodl. vol. of *Several Places in England.*)

Thomas Cotton, Esq., of Pulley, served the office of Sheriff in 1678. He married Alice, one of the nineteen children of Sir John Corbett, Bart., of Adderley. His daughter and heir, Sarah, married Edward Owen, Esq., of Woodhouse.

[Blakeway has not kept distinct the two manors in PULLEY.

Mortimer's Manor was that part of Pulley now in the manor of Meole Brace. After Domesday it does not appear as a separate manor, nor as anything more than a member of Meole Brace. It passed with Meole Brace to Mortimer's Feoffees, the Cantilupes and Bracys, who thus became mesne lords of this part of Pulley. At the Assizes of 1221, William, infant son and heir of Stephen de Purileg, sued Audulf de Bracy for a virgate in Purileg. At the Assizes of 1256, John de Bracy was found to have disseized William de Rodene and Alice, his wife, of half a virgate in Pulilegh.

Teodulf's Manor was that part of Pulley which was afterwards in St. Julian's parish, and now Bayston Hill. On Teodulf's forfeiture it was constituted a Serjeantry by the tenure of keeping the Forest of Lythwood, of which the first tenants were Gilbert Bocharte (or Boschart) and his sons, Ralph and Roger. On the deaths of Gilbert and Ralph, the land came to Roger Bocharte. He died in 1194, leaving two infant daughters, Alice and Isabella. Alice became the wife first of Thomas de Echingeham, and afterwards of Elias de Burton; whilst Isabella married Ralph Marescall. Elias de Burton was dead in 1227, and from this time Ralph Marescall seems to have obtained both shares of this manor. His widow, Isabella, was dead in 1249, when it was found by Inquisition that she held 3½ virgates in Polilegh, worth 6s. per annum, by service of keeping the Forest of Lye (or Lythwood). Her son, Ralph Marescall, succeeded to Pulley, but died about 1262-3, leaving a son and heir, Engelard de Pulileg. On Engelard's death in 1289, his son, Philip de Pulileg, succeeded to Pulley.

Pulley foreign and Pulley vetus were part of the old Liberties of Shrewsbury. In 1327, the following inhabitants of Polileye in the Liberties were assessed to the Subsidy:—John de Bettone, William Neel, and Alice de Polileye; whilst under Polyleye in Condover Hundred the following were assessed:—William Enge, Reginald Partrych, and William Bronnyges. In 1352, Richard de Polileye paid 12d. on a taxation of the Liberties. In the Court Books, Pulley Vetus and Pulley fforens. occur amongst the Libertates Wardæ Lapideæ. Poliley occurs in 1385, and Pulhley in 1395, on the Court Rolls of the Liberties. On an Inquisition of the Liberties taken in October, 1515, it was found that Pulley was a hamlet of Betton, and in the parish of St. Juliana the Virgin; and (in another part of the Inquisition) that Betton and part of Pulley were within the Hundred of Condover, and were taxed to fifteenths and tenths to 12s. 11d.[1] Amongst the Trained Soldiers of Shropshire in 1580, these names occur:—Pulley: Mr Edward Ireland, Thomas Bolde, Thomas Wykie, Ffrauncis Croket, Richard Vikers, Raffe Ffuret, Jeu'n ap David. Pulley Old Liberties: Richard Suker, Thomas Suker his servant, Richard Betton, Arthur Simons, Thomas Goughe his servant, Arthur Durnenge, George Mylward, Arthur Mylward and William Mylward his servants, John Mylward, Ric. ap Richard, William Dagar, Arthur Suker, Houmffrey Nocke, John Mylward, John Corles.[2] In 1587 there is a similar return for Pulley Old Liberties and Pulley New Liberties[3]

The Irelands of Lythwood sprung from Robert, second son of David Ireland of Shrewsbury. See pedigree in *Visitation of Salop*, 1623 (Harl. Society, p. 271).

The old house above referred to was formerly the property of Thomas Jelf Powys, Esq., and now of Mr. G. E. Kinnersly, and was tenanted formerly by several members of the Hiles family, but now by Mr. Wm. Thomas of Meole, Miss Norris occupying it. It contains many old oak beams and marks of antiquity. On the east side it is timbered, and there are vestiges of a moat. In the farmyard is an old dovecot. The ornamented chimney and the carved inscriptions are not now visible, but six roundels of glass remain in the parlour window. They are as follows:—No. 1, unintelligible; (2) "lady," (?) in old English characters; (3) an ornamented shield, with a scroll across it, and a black and gold cable border round it; (4) a man reaping barley, "August" (?); (5) a man weeding corn, "June;" (6) a man threshing with a flail, "September."

The Meole portion of Pulley now belongs to several landowners, Messrs. Bather, Kinnersly, Hiles, Lee, &c.; and the St. Julian's portion belongs to Mr. Hulton-Harrop and others.—Ed.]

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[1] Cf. *Trans.*, 2nd Series, ii., 73, 75.
[2] *Ibid*, 280-1.
[3] *Ibid*, iii., 142-3.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

PIMLEY.

Pimley in the parish of Uffington, but liberties o. Shrewsbury.

In a charter of inspeximus to the abbey of Salop, 2 Henry III. (1226), Fulke, the Sheriff of Shrewsbury, is stated to have granted Pimlye to that religious house in the time of Henry I., with the body of his wife (*i.e.*, for her sepulture within their precinct), with the assent of his son Henry. But this grant should seem not to have been acted upon; I suppose from some defect of title in the grantor—at least I find no other trace of any connection between this place and that abbey.[1]

Stephen fil. Uverardi de Midelton[2] grants to ye Abbot of Haghmon partem meam de ripa de Pimbelega ad quam firmatum est molendinum eorum & tantum de terra mea quantum sufficit ad bene firmandum stagnum ejusdem molendini; also grants quod firment molendin' p'd'c'um ubicumq' voluerint inter vadum subtus & proquinquius molendino & ipsum molendinum; also grants la mora que est inter predictum vadum & molendinum. H.T.: Will'o fil. Alani, Hug' Pantulf, Will'o de Boter', Rob. de Girrons, Petro filio Tor' [qu. Toret], Marscoto, Will'o de Wudeton, Alano de Etlega, Will'o de Hercolou, Odo de Odenet, Widone de Sauburi, Rob. fil Aerii, Rad'o Hose.

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[1] [This is an error of Blakeway's. Eyton points out that the Seigneury of Pimley remained with Shrewsbury Abbey until the dissolution. Fulke, who was a sort of Under-Sheriff to Rainald, granted Pimelega to the Abbey between 1121 and 1136. His gift is recorded in the Confirmations of Stephen, the Empress Maud, Henry II., and Henry III. *Cf.* Eyton, vii, 304.—Ed.]

[2] [Stephen de Pimbelega, son of Unerarde de Midelton, was the Abbot of Shrewsbury's feoffee at Pimley. On February 8, 1189, a Fine was levied between Stephen de Pimbelg and the Abbot of Lilleshall concerning a bose in Hennechot and Pimbelg. The Canons of Haughmond had a mill called Pimley mill, in Uffington Manor, but situated on the rivulet of Pimley or Pimbroc; and Stephen makes three grants to them. *Cf.* Eyton, vi., 368, vii., 304-5.—Ed.]

Stephen, son of Unerard de Midelton, grants to Haghmond his part of ye bank of Pimbelega, &c.

Stephen de Pimbelega grants to the canons of Haghmon permission to make their stank of the mill and pool of Pimbeleg, upon his land there; and to raise and extend it there as much as they please, ita quod tota gista aque vivarii—so that the whole *stress* (qu. French jet d'eau) of the water of the pool may be upon his land of Pimbeleg. He likewise gives them leave to take of his land wherever they will, absque nocumento terre culte, to strengthen, raise, and extend their stank. Also that they may have their bays on his said land, that the water of the pool may freely and sufficiently issue, cum tota terra que est inter cursum aque baiarum & ductum veterem de Pimbel'. And he covenants that neither himself nor his heirs shall move any claim against the canons on account of the loss of water, que per cursum aque baiarum possit evenire terre mee de Pimbel'. Likewise that neither he nor his heirs shall ever fish in the pool. This grant is attested by Sir John fitz Alan, Sir Thomas Mandut, and Robert his brother, and therefore probably belongs to ye reign of King John.[1]

By another deed he gives them as much of his tilled land of Pimbel' as is between a certain oak marked on both sides with a cross, across his tilled land strait to a certain maple (acernum), which stands on the bank of Pimbroc underneath towards the said brook, together with the said two trees.

De donac'o'e molendini de Pimbel' sicut d^{t} Rex Henr' secundus:—Ex dono Roberti de la Mara etc. cum una mansura in ipsam villam de Offinton cum molendino de Pimbel' quam terram cum molendino, pater suis eis antea donavit.

Vide indenturam de molendino & aliis ibidem dimissis Nicholas Forbour Salop, & etiam composic'o'em inter Monasterium de Haghmon & Lileshill pro redundac'o'e aque ibidem.

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[1] [This deed, says Eyton, must have passed after 1215, and so twenty years later than the first of Stephen's three grants.—Ed.]

A fine[1] in y^e^ court of our lord y^e^ king of Salop on Monday in y^e^ morrow of S^t^ Michael 4 John (1202), before G. fil . . . . earl of Essex and chief justiciary, W^m^ fitz Alan, Hugh Pantulf, John Strange, Rob^t^ Corbet, Rob^t^ de Boudles, &c., between Stephen de Pimlegh, demandant, and y^e^ burgesses of Salop, tenants of y^e^ whole pasture in Pimeley and Derfeld to y^e^ hedge of Pimlegh. Stephen grants it to y^e^ burgesses, they paying an annual rent of 1 lb. of cumin—per manus præpositorum de Salop—and they pay him 6 marks of Silver. (E cartis penes Joseph Loxdale de Salop, anno 1792.)

24 Eliz. (1581-2), Anthonye Forster of Watling S^t^, gent., releases to John Young, jun^r^, of Charney, co. Staff., gent., his right in y^e^ great tithes of y^e^ towne fyld and territory of Rodon in p'sh High Ercall.

30 Sept., 32 Eliz. (1590), Deed to declare y^e^ uses of a fine. John Yonge of Charnes, co. Staff., gent., levied a fine w^hin^ 3 y^rs^ last past to Edw. Hussey, co. Sal., Esq^r^, and John Badeley of Elerton Grange, co. Staff., gent., of all messuages, pastures, &c., of y^e^ s^d^ John Yonge in y^e^ p'shes, fieldes, &c., of Salop, Uffington, and Pimley. It is now declared to be to y^e^ use and for the promotion of John Yonge the younger, son of y^e^ s^d^ John Yonge.

3 Jan., 1618, John Young of Pimley, gent., John Young, jun^r^, gent., son and heir-apparent of y^e^ said John Young y^e^ elder, and Ellener, wife of Young, jun^r^, sells to S^r^ Francis Newport of High Ercall, Kt., y^e^ s^d^ tithes reputed or taken to belong to y^e^ late chapel of Roden, in which Wm. Horner of London, dec'ed, and Ri. Horner, late of Pimley, dec'd, and y^e^ s^d^ John Young had any estate.

11 Car. I. (1635), Agg. to advise w^h^ counsell what course to take ag^t^ M^r^ John Younge for inclosinge Pimley wood out of the Oulde Heathe, whereby y^e^ inh'itants of this J. are hindred there com'on of pasture in Pimley wood afs^d^—and of the rioltie belong^g^ to y^e^ corporation.

Mr. Yonges case.

John Yonge, y^e^ plf., lies seised of y^e^ capital messuage or reputed manor called Pimbley, and of a piece of wood ground called Pimley wood, parcel of y^e^ s^d^ manor or capital messuage, and thereunto adjoining, w^ch^ beyond memory was divided by

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[1] [This Fine is not noticed by Eyton. Stephen de Pimley had been engaged in a suit with the bailiffs and burgesses respecting his land at Pimley, and had established his right thereto. *Cf.* Eyton, vii., 305.—Ed.]

divers meare stones from a great common called the ould heath, but left uninclosed by reason it was full of woods . . . the plf. purposinge to sell y^e^ s^d^ wood, about Jan^y^, 1635, inclosed y^e^ s^d^ Pimley wood and for 2 y^rs^ quietly depast^d^ y^e^ same.

The bailiffs and burgesses of Shrewsbury pretend^g^ r^t^ of common to y^e^ s^d^ wood, ordered y^e^ fence to be thrown down: whereupon y^e^ s^d^ John Yonge in Easter term, 1638, declared in King's Bench ag^t^ them . . . . and had judgement . . . .

In Trin. term, 15 Car. I. (1639) y^e^ s^d^ John Young obtained a similar judgem^t^ ag^t^ Houmfry Raven and o^rs^ as tenants unto one M^r^ Tho. Jones of a parcell of ground called the Close behind the Castle, clayming to have common of pasture in y^e^ s^d^ Pimley wood.

Witnesses brought to prove, that a litell brooke runninge from Hencot under the Bowebridge to be the uttermost extent of y^e^ soil belonginge to y^e^ J. of Shrewsbury, and that the Owld heath lyeth betwixte y^e^ s^d^ Bowebridge and Pimley wood.

———— to prove that the owners of Pimley tyme owte of minde, duringe the time of pannage have imployed a servant constantly to keepe all sorts of cattel out of y^e^ s^d^ wood savinge his owne and such as did asiste there.

Old Heath: This whole common was formerly belonging to y^e^ abbot of Lylleshall, and so were y^e^ several lordships of Abright Lee, Harlscote, and Hancot in y^e^ p'shes of S^t^ Alkmund and S^t^ Mary, tog^r^ w^h^ y^e^ farme called Pymley in y^e^ p'sh of Uffington.

The M. of Abr. lee contiguous to y^e^ waste (of Pymbley) was granted to James Leveson, whose son Richard, 8 Mar., 7 Edw. VI. (1553) grants it to Sir Rowland Hill and Jas. Barker for £256 14s. 8d.

[Pimley is not mentioned in Domesday. Eyton is of opinion that it was then included in the Manor of Upton, although it was in the parish of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury.

Stephen de Pimley, before referred to, was succeeded in his estates by his son, William de Pimbeleg. William had two sons, Geoffrey and William. The Hundred Roll of 1255 states that "Geoffrey de Pembeleg is lord of Pembeleg, and holds it of the Abbot of Salop for 5s. per annum." Pimley passed presently to the Burnells, and Bishop Burnell by deed gave his manor of Pymbeleye to Thomas de Wythington and his wife Isabella, which Isabella was *consanguinea* of the Bishop. Thomas de Wythington was living from about 1289 to 1318. The manor afterwards came to the Yonges.

Adam de Pembeley was assessed to the Subsidy of 1327, under Downton. In a Court Book of 1508, the following inhabitants of

Pymley are named: Thomas Trentham, senior, William Yonge,[1] William Humfreston, the Abbot of Salop, Thomas Otteley, and William Clerke. In 1564 John Younge, gent., and Richard Horn occur; and in 1597, John Yonge, gent., and John Yonge, junior. In the Court Books it occurs amongst the Libertates Wardæ Castrensis.

Pemeley was added to the Liberties of Shrewsbury by the Charter of Henry VII., dated 14 Dec., 1495.[2] At an Inquisition of the Liberties taken in 1515, it was found that the tenants, residents, and dwellers within and of the town of Pym'eley within the hundred of Bradford, for their goods and chattels moveable within the said town of Pymeley were taxed to a certain entire fifteenth and tenth to the sum of 7s.[3]

In the list of the Trained Soldiers of Shropshire in 1580, under Pymley, occur these names:—Richard Horner, and George Man, Roger Hunte, and William Hylton his servants, Mr. Thomas Ponsburie, William Robinson, and Richard Robinson.[4] In 1587, John Yonge, gent., John Illedge, and Homfrey Blackey occur.[5] This Thomas Pontesbury was probably son of George Pontesbury of Allbrightlee, and was buried at St. Alkmund's 16 March, 1605. (See *Vis. Salop*, 1623.)

The Pimley estate ultimately came to the Corbet family of Sundorne. Pimley House was erected in 1849 by Andrew William Corbet, Esq., for his residence during his mother's lifetime. He died in 1856; and it has since been tenanted by Mr. Jonathan Scarth, Captain Shackerley, and Mrs. William Sparrow. The present owner of Pimley is the Rev. George Corbet, of Sundorne Castle.—Ed]

ADDITIONS TO PULLEY.

[Mr. George Edward Kinnersly's estate in Pulley was purchased about 1852 by his grandfather, Mr. Edward Kinnersley of Newcastle, Staffordshire, and of Binfield Manor, Berks, from the Hon. Henry Wentworth Powys. He died 8 June, 1868, leaving a son, Mr. William Thomas Kinnersly, on whose death in 1876 the estate passed to his son, Mr. G. E. Kinnersly.

Mr. Thomas Hiles's estate in Pulley belonged to his great-grandfather, Mr. Thomas Hiles.

Mr. Hulton-Harrop's estate in Pulley belonged formerly to Mr. Thomas Parr of Lythwood Hall, who sold it to the Rev. Robert Hornby, from whose family it was purchased by the present owner.—Ed.]

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[1] [See Pedigree of Young of Charnes in the *Vis. of Stafford*, 1614, and in the *Vis. London*, 1568; and also of Yonge of Caynton in the *Vis. Salop*, 1623.—Ed.]

[2] [See Owen and Blakeway, i., 268, &c.—Ed.]

[3] Shropshire Archæological *Trans*, 2nd Series, ii., 75.

[4] *Ibid*, 278.

[5] *Ibid*, iii., 140.

PRESTON GOBALLS.

The extensive donations of land settled upon their ecclesiastical foundations by our Saxon ancestors was a measure not merely of their piety, but of their poverty also. They had little but land to bestow: and land unoccupied and uncultivated was of trifling value among a people whose numbers were extremely inadequate to the extent of their territory. That such was the state of this place at the time when it was granted to the Church of St. Alkmund in Shrewsbury I infer from its name: Preston, the priest's town, evidently implying that it had not, before that event, attracted sufficient notice to have received any appellation. The circumstances attending this donation are lost in the obscurity of the ninth century, the date of St. Alkmund's foundation, and therefore we are unable to determine whether Preston had been a part of the possessions of the Mercian kings, and bestowed upon her rising church by its royal foundress, Edelfleda, or whether it was one of the ten prebends granted to it by King Edgar, but the latter seems the most probable opinion.

Under the canons, Preston was so much improved as to be assessed at four hides to the dane-geld; yet it was found to have been waste at the time of the Norman Conquest. The cause of this, in the absence of all records, it is impossible to ascertain—but many circumstances conspire to shew that even Church property in those days of commotion was not so sacred as, from the terrors of superstition, one might suppose it would have been: and the collegiate church of St. Alkmund appears to have been in a condition peculiarly undefended, and from the extent of its possessions, for it was the richest of our Shrewsbury Churches, to have been in a superior degree an object of the rapacity of the Norman invaders.

In the numerous train which Roger de Montgomeri brought over with him when he came to take posses-

sion of the Earldom of Shrewsbury was a priest named Godebold. He was one of the three "wise clerks," whom, as Ordericus relates, the Earl retained in his service, and by whose counsels he directed all his measures. (Lib. iv., p. 522.) Thus, though devoted to the service of religion, he maintained somewhat of a secular character, and by the influence of his patron was enabled, in common with his fellow chaplain Nigel, the Earl's physician, to speculate largely in Church property at the expense of the canons of St. Alkmund. Among other of their possessions he is found in Domesday to hold from that church Frestone, which from him has been denominated in all after ages, Preston Gobalds, and which was then comprehended within the Hundred of Bascherche. He retained one carucate[1] in his own demesne ; two more carucates were occupied by two villans, three bordars, and two Norman settlers ; and the commissioners were of opinion that there was room for two more carucates of arable land. It was then valued at ten shillings, which was, I suppose, the rent that Godebold paid his landlords.

The place, however, subsequently reverted to St. Alcmund's, and as part of its possessions was confirmed to Lilleshull Abbey by King John in the first year of his reign (in Aug., 1199). (Dugd. Mon.)

The Iter of Henry III.[2] found four hides here holden by the Abbey ; and the same religious house by deed without date grants common in Prestone Gobald to William Banastre. (Inter cart. R. Hill bar.[ti])

In 28 Edw. I. the Abbey holds Preston Gobolde with its members, it was holden in chief of the King, was gildable, and belonged to the church of St. Alcmund. (Feodar. hund. de Pymhill.[3])

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[1] [Not carucate, but ox-team, in this and the two following places. —Ed.]

[2] [Eyton terms it, the Pimhill Hundred Roll of 1255. *Cf.* Eyton, x., 171.—Ed.]

[3] [Eyton assigns the date 1279 to this Pimhill Tenure Roll.—Ed.]

In the Nomina Villarum, 9 Edw. II. (1316), Thomas de Roshall is stated to be lord of the manors of Preston Godale and Roshall. By the former is evidently intended this place, but in what right the said Thomas was lord of it, whether pleno jure or as lessee of Lilleshull Abbey, I have not seen.

In 17 Edw. III. (1343), the Abbot and Convent of Lilleshull grant pannage in their wood of Preston Gobald to John of Acton Reynes and his wife. (Cart. R. Hill bar^ti.)

Messuages in Preston Gobalds, late parcel of the Abbey of Lilleshull, with the tithes of Mereden and Lee, were granted to Edward Hosier 35 Hen. VIII. (1543) (MS. Edwards), and he is called of Preston (which I suppose means this place) in the Visitation. By writ of Privy Seal dated 22 June in the following year, Edw. Hosyer, gent., has licence to alienate to Richard Trentham, John Makeworthe, Roger Luter, and Thomas Hosyer lands and tenements in Preston Gobalds and tithes in Mereden and Lee and others in Okyngton to his own use in tail male and with remainders over. (Harl. MSS., 1765.) Mr. Edward Hosier had an only daughter, Elizabeth, married to John Draycot, Esq., and to this gentleman and his wife he conveyed *the manor lordship* and lands in 7 Eliz. (1564). In 13 Eliz. (1570) the manor, with tithes, oblations, and lands here, were holden by Geoffrey Hosier, a relation; but this could have been only as a trustee, for in 21 Eliz. (1578) the manor and lands and the *rectory* were alienated by John Draicott, gent., to Edw. Basset and others to uses. (MS. Lethieull.)

Roger Luter,[1] gent., late alderman of Salop, is styled of Preston Gobbolds in 38 Eliz. (1595).

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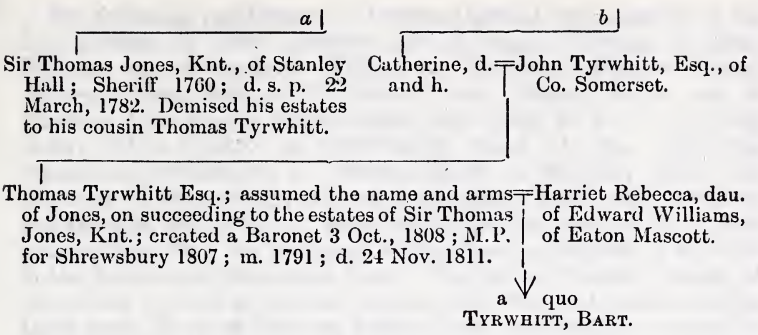
[1] [Thomas Luter married Katherine, one of the daughters of John Corbet of Lee, Sheriff in 1526. Reginald Corbet, a grandson of John, married Margery, daughter of Roger Luter, and had a daughter Ann who was a year old at the Vis. Salop, 1584. Roger Luter occurs Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1514, 1519, 1543, 1551, and 1562.—Ed.]

[The manor and estate of Preston Gobalds seems to have passed to the family of Jones of Uckington and Shrewsbury, whose pedigree was recorded in the Vis. Salop, 1623. Thomas Jones (son of Edward Jones and Mary Powell), aged 9 in 1623, became Lord Chief Justice C.P., married Jane dau. of Daniel Bavand of Chester, and was buried at St. Alkmund's 3 June, 1692. He had issue (1) William Jones, (2) Thomas Jones, and (3) the Rev. Edward Jones, Rector of Hodnet and Canon of Windsor. This rector had a son, Edward Jones of Stanley Hall, who ultimately succeeded to the Shropshire estates, and a daughter, Catherine, who married the Rev. Penyston Booth, D.D., Dean of Windsor, and left an only daughter and heiress Catherine Booth, who married John Tyrwhitt, Esq. Edward Jones of Stanley Hall died in February, 1753, and left an only son, Sir Thomas Jones, Knt., who died s.p. 22 March, 1782, having devised his estates to his cousin, Thomas Tyrwhitt, Esq. (son of John Tyrwhitt and Catherine Booth).

The following Pedigree, which is compiled from various sources, will show more clearly the devolution of the Shropshire estates in the Jones family :—

SIR THOMAS JONES, Knt., Chief Justice C.P., M.P. for Shrewsbury, 1661 ; bapt. at St. Alkmund's, 13 Oct., 1613 ; bur. there 3 June, 1692. M.I. [2nd son of Edward Jones and Mary Powell, and æt. 9 at Vis. Salop, 1623]. = Jane, dau. of Daniel Bavand, of Chester.

- William Jones of Co. Denbigh; bapt. at St. Julian's, 15 Oct., 1637 ; d. 19 and bur. at St. Alkmund's, 23 Feb., 1693. M.I.
  - Thomas Jones, Sheriff 1700 ; M.P. for Shrewsbury 1715 ; d. 31 July, and bur. at St. Alkmund's, 12th Aug., 1715, aged 48. M.I. His estates went to his cousin Charles Jones.
- Grace, dau. of Sir Peter Pyndar Bart., of Chester.
- Thomas Jones = Jane Wilkinson
  Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn ; bap. at St. Julian's, 19 Sept., 1639 ; d. 1711.
  - Charles Jones, of Shrewsbury ; Sheriff 1733 ; bur. 11 Ap., 1737, æt. 66. = Eleanor Meyrick
    - Thomas Jones, of Shrewsbury, &c. ; Sheriff 1745 ; died s.p. 22 Dec., 1745, æt. 32. His estates went to his cousin Edward Jones, of Stanley Hall.
- Edward Jones = Rector of Hodnet, and Canon of Windsor
  - Edward Jones, of Stanley Hall, *jure uxoris* ; heir to his cousin Thomas Jones in 1745 ; died Feb., 1753 *a*
  - Mary, dau. and heir of John Huxley, of Stanley Hall.
  - Catherine mar. Rev. Penyston Booth, D.D., Dean of Windsor] = *b*
- Katherine, widow of Robert Waith.



On Sir Thomas (Tyrwhitt) Jones' death in 1811, his estates came to his son—Sir Thomas John Tyrwhitt, 2nd Bart., Sheriff 1816, M.P. for Bridgnorth; he married Eliza Walwyn, daughter of John Macnamara, Esq., and died 5 Oct., 1839, leaving issue—Sir Henry Thomas Tyrwhitt, 3rd Bart., who married Emma Harriet, Baroness Berners, and died 26 Jan, 1894, leaving with other issue a son—Sir Raymond Robert Tyrwhitt, Bart, of Stanley Hall, the present lord of the Manor of Preston Gobalds, and Patron of the Advowson.

Two farms in the parish belonged to Robert Aglionby Slaney, Esq., of Walford Manor, and are now held by his grandson, Thomas Slaney Eyton, Esq.

Preston Gobalds comprises the hamlets of Merrington, Bomere Heath which was enclosed c. 1810, Old Woods, and Lea Hall.

Lea Hall was anciently called Reyner's Lee, from Reiner de Lee who held it under Lilleshall Abbey in 1196, and afterwards Lee near Pimhill.[1] The Pedigree of this family was entered at the Vis. Salop, 1623. Sir Richard Lee, Bart., of Langley and Acton Burnell, died in April, 1660, leaving two daughters and coheirs. The elder of these, Rachel Lee, married Ralph Cleaton, Esq., and had for her inheritance the Lea Hall and other estates in Shropshire. These passed to her descendants; and Lea Hall was ultimately sold to Sir Thomas (Tyrwhitt) Jones, Bart., and now belongs to his descendant, Sir Raymond Robert Tyrwhitt, Bart.

There was also a member of Preston Gobalds called Cherlton, which belonged to the Abbot of Lilleshall, and contained a hide of land.[2]

The population of Preston Gobalds in 1801 was 314; in 1841, 388; and in 1881, 426. A Religious Census taken in 1676 shows that there were then in Preston-Gobballs 133 Conformists, 9 Papists, and no Nonconformists.[3]

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[1] *Cf.* Eyton x., 172-3.
[2] *Cf.* Eyton, viii., 219; x., 173.
[3] *Cf* S. A. *Trans.*, 2nd Ser., i., 82.

The following inhabitants of Prestone Gobald were assessed to the Lay Subsidy of 1327—Richard son of Roger, Thomas le Prees, Richard son of Geoffrey, William de Peuynton', Richard Peynn, Amelyna Dun, Juliana the widow, John Aletes, Roger son of Geoffrey, John Rosote, Roger Crompe, and John de Lee. By King Henry VII.'s Charter to Shrewsbury, dated 14 Dec., 1495, the tenants and inhabitants of Preston Gobal are included within the Liberties of Shrewsbury, and are to contribute to all aids, subsidies, and tallages, &c., and from henceforth have the freedom of all fairs and markets, &c.[1] In the Court Books, Preston Gobalds is included in the Liberties of the Castle Ward. The list of Trained Soldiers of Shropshire in 1580 gives these names under Preston Gobalds—Roger Luter gent., Evan ap Thomas, Arthur Luter, and Richard Gennal his servants, John Loppington, Ffrancys Loppington, William Forton, John Williams and John and Edward Williams his sons, Richard Douns, Edward Brethyn, James Spristowe, Roger Drurie, Houmffrey Fallowes, Houmffrey Duddleston, Roger Befford, John Lye, Richard Dunford, John Foster, Thomas Meredith servant to Mr Dracot, John Croft and John Partridge servants to Mr. Lea, Evan ap Morrys, Jeffrey Shelvox, William ap Rees, and Ffrancs Harding his man.[2] A similar list for 1587 gives 34 names under Preston Gubbolls, including Mr. Dracott and four servants, — Lee gent. and four servants, and Arthur Luter gent. and two servants.[3]

The report of the Charity Commissioners for Salop, vol. xxvii., p. 448, mentions that Richard Brethens left by his will in 1777 £100 to the poor of Preston Gubbalds, and that the interest was annually laid out by the Churchwardens in the purchase of coals for the poor.

THE CHURCH.

There was a Church here at a very early date, but it was probably never reputed more than a mere dependency of St. Alkmund's till after the Dissolution. Its Ministers are not named in the Diocesan Registers, and their emoluments have no place in Church Valuations.[4] The old Church, which was dedicated to St. Martin, was taken down in 1866, except a portion of the East and South walls. A new aisle, as large as the old fabric, was built at the side, and now forms the main building. The old South doorway and window in Chancel still remain; the latter has two new lights inserted on the South side. The present Church consists of nave of three bays, chancel, South aisle, South porch, and Western tower. The old octagonal font is figured in Eyton. In the Church is a curious long stone slab; and a monument to an ecclesiastic, with a cross patonce on his breast. In the Vestry is a Library for the use of the officiating clergy, the gift of

[1] *Cf.* Owen and Blakeway, i., 268-9.
[2] S. A. *Trans.*, 2nd Series, ii., 276-7.
[3] *Ibid*, iii., 138-9.
[4] *Cf.* Eyton, x., 172.

Charles Mather, Esq. On the North wall is a brass in memory of William Stevens Burd, M.A., Christ Church, Oxon, Vicar of Preston Gubbalds 1849—1880, who was born at Leighton Buzzard 27 Dec. 1817, and died at Preston Gubbalds 27 August, 1880. The East window was also erected in his memory. The Church is in the gift of Sir Raymond R. Tyrwhit-Wilson, Bart., and is endowed with a portion of the Old Mills Farm, Criggion, consisting of 58 acres; also with a Rent-charge of £10 in the parish, and Tithe Rent-charge in the Parish of Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, apportioned at £65 17s. 2d. In the Churchyard are the steps and shaft of an ancient Cross. A Benefaction Table, 1794, states that Thomas Jones, Esq., gave £10 10s., Rev. John Jones £7, and Rev. John Muckleston £5 5s. In 1841, Lady Tyrwhit contributed £10 10s., and R. A. Slaney, Esq., £10, towards repairing the Church. The restoration in 1866 cost £1,600. The Communion Plate consists of Silver Chalice and Paten; also a flagon; and a two-handled silver Cup, one handle now missing. On the Paten are the initials G. L. and $_{R}{}^{L}{}_{A}$, the gift, probably, of some members of the Lee family.

(Exch.Q.R. Church Goods, 6 Edw. VI., Salop 8-10, m. 10.)

The p'yshe of P'ston Gobbl:

S^{r} John Samerfyld curat ther John Haynes Will'm Symons Wardens Will'm lopynton John Hayward p'sheners ther present the xvjth day of August in the sixte yere of the Rayne of Kyng Edward the sixte before S^{r} Adam Mytton Knyght Roger Luter & Rychard Wyytacres bailies of the towne of Salop that they have ij lytyll bells, iiij^{r} vestments, ij albes, and a cope.

The colo^{r} of the vestments ij green say, one white fustyan, another of chamlet.

	John S'merfilde
John Haynes	Will'm lopynton
William Symons	John Hayward

(Exch.Q.R, Church Goods, 7 Edw. VI, Salop 8-12, m. 6.)

This Indenture made the xxiiijth day of Maij Anno R.R. Edr. vj^{ti} vij^{o} betwene S^{r} Adam Mytton Knyghte John Corbett esquier & Roger lewes comissioners by vertue of the kings letters of comission to them emongst other directyd on the one p'tye & S^{r} John Somerfyld curate ther Will'm trenthyn James Bryde John hayne John Hayward & Will'm lopyngton p'yshners of the p'ysh off Preston Gobbs of the other partye Witnessethe that ther ys remaynyng in the said p'yshe churche ij lyttyle bells w^{t} bells the said comyssioners on the king's majestyes behallfl streytly chargyth & commandythe them sowely to kepe unsolde ne otherwise imbesyllyd untyll suche tyme as the king's ma^{tie} plesure be unto them further signifyed and declaryd. P. me Jhon Sumerfeld.

* * * * *]

INCUMBENTS OF PRESTON GOBALDS.

(From Blakeway's Parochial Clergy; MS. Blakeway 15, fo. 42)

John Somerfeld, clk., was curate here 32 Henry VIII. (1540), with a salary of £4 13s. 4d. which is allowed by the Crown on the Ministers' Accounts of that year for the dissolved abbey of Lilleshull. [He occurs also in 1553.]

John Billingsley, 1613.

William Tecka, curate, 1621; sep. 28 Jan., 1641.

Thomas Orpe, minister here after his ejection from Staunton Hine heath. [Formerly Schoolmaster at Tarporley. Vicar of Stanton-on-Hine-Heath, from which he was ejected by the Parliamentary Committee, but restored in 1662. Minister also of Battlefield. Died 9 Dec., 1677, aged 66. See Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, ii., 323-4. He was born at Wilkesley, Cheshire, 1611. Son of Thomas Orpe, pleb. Matriculated at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, 13 Oct., 1632, then aged 21.]

John Billingsley, curate temp. Car. II., see KINNERLEY,

John Gower, minister, 1663; sep. 27 Apr., 1672.

Richard Lloyd, minister, 1696. [Qu. M.A. St. Mary Hall, Oxford; son of Thomas Lloyd, gent.; born at Emstrey 1652; rector of Petton 1691.]

Samuel Pearson, son of the Vicar of the Abbey, is styled of Preston Gubbalds, in his admission to burgesship 1721. [Son of Rev. Samuel Pearson, M.A,; bapt. at Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, 29 Nov., 1684.]

Richard Poolmore, curate, 1736.

William Bagley, curate, 1737; ob. Mar., 1783. [Sometimes signs Registers as "Minister."]

[Thomas Jones, curate, 1783-4.

R. Howell, curate, 1787-90.]

John Jones, curate, see HANWOOD; ob. 12 Feb., 1793. [Signs as "Minister" 1787-91.]

Thomas Frank, B.A., 1800. [Signs Registers from 23 Oct., 1797, to 1804, and from 1825 to 1835. Son of Edward Frank, gent.; born at Oswestry, 1755. Of Brasenose Coll., Oxford, matric 27 May, 1773, aged 18; B.A, 1777. Died at Coton Hill, Shrewsbury, 22 Jan., 1849.

J. Davies, curate, 1805-21.

B. Maddy, curate, 1836-1846.

H. Moller, officiating minister, 1846.

William Stevens Burd, 1849-80. Son of the Rev. George Burd. Born at Leighton Buzzard 27 Dec., 1817. Of

Ch. Ch., Oxford, matric. 11 May, 1837, B.A. 1841, M.A. 1847. Died at Preston Gobalds 27 August, 1880.

Joshua Brownjohn, 1880-1892. Theological Associate K.C.L. Died at St. Cross, Winchester, Oct., 1893. Formerly Vicar of St. Benedict, Norwich, 1871-4, and Rector of St. Stephen's, Ipswich, 1876-80. The East window was erected in his memory; and there is a brass on the North wall.

John Alexander Kelly, instituted 10 Nov., 1892. Of Trinity Coll., Dublin, B.A. 1862, M.A. 1869. Born at Sandymount, co. Londondery, 25 Aug., 1839. The present Incumbent of Preston Gobalds.

For many of these particulars I am indebted to the Rev. J. A. Kelly.—Ed.]

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS OF PRESTON GOBALDS.

(From G. Morris's MSS. Shropshire Registers, &c.)

(Commences 1559).

1560, Ap. 18. Edward, son of John Williams, bapt.
1560, Ap. Margaret, daughter of Adam Colfoxe, bapt.
1564, Sept. 21. Edward, son of Mr. Edward Owen, bapt.
1564, Oct. 5. Richard, son of William Colfoxe, bapt.
1570, Ap. 25. Robert and Thomas, sons of John Lee, bapt.
1570, Oct. 18. Elizabeth, daughter of George Irelande, bapt.
1575, Oct. 5. Tymothie Edwards and Alse Colfoxe mar.
1577, Aug. 11. Leonard, son of Leonard Chambers bapt.
1578, Jan. 9. George, son of Leonard Chambers, bapt.
1581, Feb. 25. Reignold Corbet and Margery Luter mar.
1583, Ap. 14. Richard, son of Thomas Wollascot, gent., bapt.
1583, Feb. 14. Wm. Tecka, clerk and Ellen Druryc mar.
1585, July 2. Sara, daughter of Harry Calcott, bapt.
1587, Feb. 20. Roger, son of Mr. Robert Luther, bapt.
1590, Dec. 14. Edward, son of Mr. Robert Luther, bur.
1591, Ap. 25. Thomas, son of Mr. Robert Luther, bapt.
1591, June 11. Katherine, wife of Roger Luther, gent., bur.
1591, July 18. Mr. Rd. Thomas and Dorothy Wycherley mar.
1591, Aug. 4. Margaret, daughter of Humfrey Lee, Esq., bapt.
1591, Jan. 22. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Robert Luther, bur.
1592, Ap. 13. John Wycherley bur.
1592, July 23. Richard, son of Mr. Rd. Thomas of Leaton, bapt.
1593, Ap. 8. Maryo, daughter of Humphrey Lee, Esq., bapt.
1594, June 2. Cyselie, daughter of Humphrey Lee, Esq., bapt.
1595, May 1. Mary, daughter of Thomas Corbet, gent., bapt.

1595, July 24. Samuel, son of Mr. Richard Thomas, bur.
1595, Oct. 7. Eleanor, daughter of Humphrey Lee, Esq., bapt.; bur. 17th.
1597, Dec. 3. Reignold Corbett, gent., bur.
1600, Sept. 14. Richard, son of Humphrey Lee, Esq., bapt.; b. 7th.
1601, July 16. Thomas, son of Ellyn Scot, bur.
1601, Jan. 9. Yevan Lloyd of Dyther, bur., dyeing at Albrighton.
1604, July 10. Ann, daughter of Tho. Jukes, bapt. at Adbrighton.
1604, July 31. Thomas, son of Robert Goughe, bapt. at Adbrighton.
1604, Aug. 9. Margaret, w. of Roger Thomas, bur.
1605, July 1. Rd. Kilverte and Margt. app Rees, mar.
1605, Roger Hussey and Eller. Peirte mar.
1606, Aug. 10. Robert, son of Roger Hussey, gent., bapt.
1607, June 11. Elinor, dau. of Humfrey Sandford, gent., bapt.
1608, Feb. 26. Dorethee, daughter of Richard Kilvart, bur.
1612, July 26. Fraunces, dau. of Francis Kynaston, Esq., bapt.
1613, July 26. Edward, son of Francis Kynaston, Esq., bapt.
1614, Ap. 23. Fraunces, daughter of Roger Hussey, bapt.
1614, Nov. 15. Robert, son of Rd. and Margt. Kilvarte, bapt.
1615, Jan. 3. Edward Muckleston, gent., and Mrs. Mary Corbett, mar.
1616, June 18. Robert, son of Richard Kilvarte, bur.
1616, July 8. Rd. Hussey, gent., and Anne Burde, mar.
1616, Sept. 13. Margt., wife of Rd. Kilvarte bur.
1616, Oct. 4. Mary, daughter of Roger and Ellyn Hussey, bapt.
1616, Mar. 6. Sara, daughter of Edw. Muckleston, gent., and Mary, bapt.
1617, Sept. 21. Margt. daughter of Rd. Hussey, gent., and Anne, bapt.
1618, Nov. 15. Andrew, dau. of Roger Hussey and Ellen, bapt.
1618, July 4. Frances, daughter of Edward Fowler, Esq., bur.
1619, Ap. 7. Margery, daughter of Edw. Muckleston, gent., and Mary, bapt.
1619, July 7. Barbara, dau. of Sir Francis Kynaston, Knt., bur.
1620, Aug. 8. Symon Meyricke and Mrs. Margt. Clyve, mar
1620, Jan. 21. Mary, daughter of Edw. Muckleston, gent., and Mary, bapt.
1620, Mar. 9. Margt., dau. of Roger and Ellyn Hussey, bapt.
1621. William Tecka, curate, signs the Register.
1622, Feb. 24. Wm. Colfox jr. and Cycely Spyser mar. at Battlefield.

ACNITT & NALNTON SALOP

St Mary's Alms Houses – Erected 1450, taken down 1825

THE DRAPERS' COMPANY CHARTER.

By the Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

Of the numerous Fraternities and Gilds which once existed in Shrewsbury, the Drapers is the only one which survives in any shape or form. It has undergone the usual vicissitudes, but through them all has managed to retain some of its property, now used for charitable purposes, and to maintain its Hall, its furniture, and "a fine old carved chest" full of books, papers, and other documents, some day, it is hoped, to be carefully examined and given forth to the world. When this is done, some interesting revelations respecting its past history and connexion with the municipality may be hoped for. But among these documents we do not expect to find its "Ancient Charter," for that is believed to have been destroyed by fire.

In the early years of the present century there was a lawsuit, and search was made for the Charter, and that it was not found we may conclude from the production of an office copy *in English* made from the Records which were then deposited in the Tower of London. This office copy was found among family papers a few months ago by a gentleman now residing in Wales, whose father, at the time above referred to, held office in the Corporation, and may be supposed to have retained it when the trial was over. It was sent to me as a curiosity, and finding it to contain, in addition to its main purpose, some matters of interest to antiquaries, I made enquiries respecting the original, with the result above stated. Subsequently I found in the

Shrewsbury Free Library, in one of the MS. volumes compiled by the learned and industrious Leonard Hotchkis, M.A. (Head Master of the Free School from 1735 to 1754), his transcript of the original Latin Charter. This I am now able to set before the public, and have added to it the "office copy" of the translation before alluded to.

In most respects they agree; some slight inaccuracies and one omission were noticed in the collation, but nothing of importance. We may suppose Mr. Hotchkis not to have had sufficient experience in reading documents of that remote age to have enabled him to preserve the exact force of the abbreviations used, or to distinguish between such as are somewhat alike, but I think in extending them, according to the wish of the Council, I have managed to obviate any mistakes which would tell against the general accuracy of the whole. The omission is of the clause whereby the King authorised "the Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters and their Successors to have a Common Seal to serve for ever for their Businesses and Acts." This seal, however, may still be found in the ancient carved chest which exists among their property.

We shall miss some other items of great interest which the parchment original would have given, such as the additional seals attached, and the names of the attesting witnesses, but we must be grateful for what we have, and hope, when the contents of the chest are overhauled, to obtain some further particulars of a Company which has existed in our midst for more than four centuries.

Drapers Salop' Pat. 1° E. 4 p^s^ 3. m. 6.

Rex omnibus ad quos &c. Salutem. Sciatis quod cum dilecti Nobis homines mistere pannariorum Ville nostre Salop' et eorum Predecessores et non modico tempore transacto intimam et fraternam deleccionem habentes, adeo quo valebant florescere et augere, intime affectantes ad laudem et honorem Dei Summi et Individue Sancte Trinitatis, unam fraternitatem

sive Gildam de seipsis facere fundare et stabilire preponentes quedam divina servicia Ornamenta. Necnon alia diuersa Caritatis opera ibidem per longum tempus elapsum annuatim ad decus Altissime Sancteque Trinitatis infra Ecclesiam Parochialem et Collegiatam beate Marie de Salop' pie exhibuerunt invenerunt ac Caritative sustentaverunt et continuaverunt pacifice et quiete, ipsique metuentes et intime advertentes dictam fraternitatem non posse perdurare eo quod fraternitas illa rite et legittime non sit fundata et stabilita quamquam eadem fraternitas pie et devote continuata existeret, nobis humillime Supplicaverunt quatenus eorum piis et devote intenco'ibus in hac parte velimus intime delec'cois affectu benignissime confovere. Nos premissa deliberantes et ponderantes et ut fraternitas sive Gilda de hujusmodi hominibus Mistere predicte infra Villam predictam perpetuis futurisque temporibus habeatur et inde sinentur perseveret proinde volentes ac ad fundandam hujusmodi fraternitatem sive Gildam de supradictis hominibus super personam nostram ob devocionem quam penes Gloriosam Sanctamque Trinitatem specialiter gerimus et habemus assumentes nosque fundatorem fraternitatis sive Gilde illius imperpetuum appellari, Volentes, ad laudem gloriam et honorem Santissime Trinitatis volentesque ea que ad ejus laudem vel honorem sunt vel esse possunt pocius Augmentari quam minui ut singulariter tenemur de gratia nostra speciali et ex certa sciencia nostra quandam fraternitatem sive Gildam de prefatis ligeis nostris hominibus de dicta mistera pannariorum Ville nostre predicte ac quibuscumque aliis Christi fidelibus de eadem fraternitate sive Gilda esse volentibus ad inveniendum, et sustentandum unum Capellanum divina singulis diebus pro statu nostro ac statu fratrum et sororum ejusdem fraternitatis sive Gilde dum viximus et pro anima nostra ac inclita memoria carissimorum patris nostri Ricardi et Edmundi Nuper Comitis Rutelandie fratris nostri ac aliorum progenitorum heredum et successorum nostrorum et (pro) animabus fratrum et sororum ejusdem fraternitatis sive Gilde illius postquam ab hac *luce* migraverimus et (pro) animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum celebraturum ac ceteras pauperes personas utriusquo sexus pro statu et animabus predictis apud altissimum (altarem) similiter imperpetuum exoraturi et deprecaturi in predicta Ecclesia Parochiali sive Collegiata fecimus fundavimus creavimus, ereximus et stabilavimus ac per presentes facimus fundamus creamus erigimus et stabilimus perpetuis futurisque temporibus duraturis, Propterea de uberiori gratia nostra concessimus

fratribus et sororibus fraternitatis sive Gilde predicte sic per nos facte fundate create erecte et stabilite quod fraternitas sive Gilda illa sic per nos facta fundata creata erecta et stabilita fraternitas sive Gilda Sancte Trinitatis de hominibus mistere pannariorum Ville nostre Salop' in perpetuum nuncuparetur et quod fratres et sorores fraternitatis sive Gilde illius sic per nos facte fundate create et stabilite sint per se una Communitas perpetua corporata in re habeantque successionem perpetuam et dilectos nobis Johannem Knight hominem de mistera predicta Ville nostre predicte in Magistrum ac Degorium watur et Ricardum watur alios de Mistera ejusdem Ville in custodes sive Gardianos fraternitatis sive Gilde illius ordinamus preficimus creamus pro anno proximo futuro et volumus et concedimus quod iidem Magister et Gardiani ac fratres et sorores fraternitatis sive Gilde illius eorum successores quascunque personas eis grato animo adherentes in fratres et sorores fraternitatis sive Gilde illius recipere et acceptare possint. Ac capellanus et pauperes supradicti in Ecclesia Parochiali sive Collegiata predicta ut predictum est pro statu animabus predictis celebraturi et oraturi juxta ordinac'oem majoris et sanioris partis eorundem fratrum et sororum et successorum suorum in hac parte faciendum quodque fratres et sorores ejusdem fraternitatis sive Gilde predicte et eorum successores ex nunc unum Magistrum et duos Gardianos de se ipsis pro sana Gubernac'oe ejusdem fraternitatis sive Gilde de anno in annum et quociens pro commodo et honore fraternitatis sive Gilde illius fuerit expediendum eligere possint ac ipsos ab eorum successoribus removere et expellere Necnon alium magistrum et alios Gardianos in officia predicta eligere et facere valeant juxta Ordinac'oem Majoris et sanioris partis eorundem fratrum et sororum et successorum suorum in hac parte faciendum. Et quod Magistri et Gardiani fraternitatis sive Gilde predicte cum sic electi fuerint ac fratres et sorores ejusdem fraternitatis sive Gilde per nos ut predictum est fundate et stabilite et successores sui Magistri et Gardiani ac fratres et sorores fraternitatis sive Gilde Sancte Trinitatis de hominibus mistere pannariorum Ville nostre Salop' imperpetuum nuncuparentur iidemque Magistri et Gardiani ac fratres et sorores et eorum successores per nomen Magistri et Gardianorum ac fratrum et sororum fraternitatis sive Gilde Sancte Trinitatis de hominibus mistere pannariorum Ville nostri predicte per se sint persone habiles et capaces in lege ad perquirendum et recipiendum in feodo et perpetuitate terras tenementa et alias possessiones quecunque tenendum eis et eorum successoribus

imperpetuum. Ac eciam quod iidem Magistri et Gardiani ac fratres et sorores et eorum successores per idem nomen et sub eorum nomine placitare et implacitari respondere et responderi possint in quibuscunque curiis placeis et locis nostris heredum et successorum nostrorum ac in curiis placeis et locis aliorum quorumcumque tam coram nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris quam coram Justiciariis et Judicibus Spiritualibus et temporalibus quibuscunque in omnimodis accoi'bus realibus personalibus et mixtis sectis querelis et demandis secundum leges et Consuetudines regni nostri Anglie ad omnia alia facienda et exercenda et recipienda prout in eorundem modo quo ceteri ligei nostri persone habiles et capaces infra idem regnum nostrum placitant et implicitantur ac faciant et facere poterint in Curiis et locis predictis Secundum leges et Consuetudines predictas. Necnon quod predicti Magistri et Gardiani ac fratres et sorores et eorum successores[1]

congregac'oes licitatas et honestas de seipsis ac Statuta et ordinac'oes licitas tam pro dicto Capellano et pauperibus supradictis pro statu et animabus predictis in forma predicta celabraturis et deprecaturis quam pro salubri Gubernaco'e fraternitatis sive Gilde supradicte secundum necessitatem exigenciam quociens et quando opus fuerit facere valeant licite et impune sine occasi'oe impedimento proturbac'oe vel molestac'oe nostri heredum seu successorum nostrorum Justiciarorum Escaetorum Vicecomitum Coronatorum aut aliorum Ballivorum vel Ministrorum nostrorum vel heredum seu successorum nostrorum quorumcumque. Ac insuper de gratia nostra speciali et ex certa scientia et mero motu nostro dedimus et concessimus et per presentes damus et concedimus prefatis Magistro et Gardianis ac fratribus et sororibus fraternitatis sive Gilde predicte omnia illa terras et tenementa redditus et servicia cum suis pertinentiis que nuper habuimus simul cum Margareta Daking et Rogero Webbe tam in Villa Salop' quam eciam in forieta Monachorum. Calneham et Castelli forieta in suburbiis Salop' ac alibi infra libertatem ejusdem Ville ex dono et ffeoffamenti Nicholai Gerard nuper de Salop armigeri Ac etiam omnia illa terras et tenementa redditus servicia cum suis pertinentiis in Salop que nuper habuimus ex dono et feoffamento hugonis Dyer alias dicti hugonis Berewick, Habendum et tenendum omnia terras et tenementa redditus et seruicia predicta cum suis pertinentiis

[1] Clause omitted respecting a Common Seal.

universis prefatis Magistro et Gardianis ac fratribus et sororibus fraternitatis sive Gilde predicte et successoribus suis de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia inde debita et de jure consueta ad capellanum et pauperes predictos sustentandum et alia pietatis opera faciendum imperpetuum Et ulterius concessimus et licentiam dedimus pro nobis et pro heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est prefatis Magistris et Gardianis ac fratribus et sororibus fraternitatis sive Gilde predicte et eorum successoribus quod ipsi terras tenementa et redditum ad valorem quadraginta librarum per Annum que de (nobis) immediate non tenentur in Capite de quibuscumque personis vel persona ea eis dare legare vel assignare et volentibus vel volente perquirere et ea recipere et tenere possint sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum. Statuto de terris et tenementis ad Manum Mortuum non ponendo edito aut quod expressa mencio de specialitate et certitudine predictorum terrarum tenementium reddituum et serviciorum inde de vero valore annuo eorundem in presentibus minime facto existit non obstante Et hec de gratia nostra speciali absque fine seu fœdo ad opus nostrum vel heredum nostrorum pro premissis vel aliquo premissorum solvendo

In cujus rei &c. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xij die Januarii. per breve de privato Sigillo et de dato &c.

Amongst the Records of the Court of Chancery kept in the Tower of London (to wit) the Patent rolls of the 1st Year of the reign of King Edward after the Conquest of England the 4th p. 3. m. 6. it is thus contained.

For the Men of the Mystery of Drapers of the Town of Shrewsbury } The King To all to whom &c. Greeting Know ye that whereas our beloved the Men of the Mystery of Drapers of our Town of Shrewsbury and their predecessors for no inconsiderable Time past having a close and fraternal Affection insomuch that they have been able to flourish and increase being earnestly zealous for the praise and honour of Almighty God and of the holy undivided Trinity and with the purpose of making founding and establishing of themselves a Fraternity or Guild have piously exhibited found and charitably supported certain divine Services ecclesiastical ornaments and also have peaceably and quietly kept up divers other works of Charity and piety there for a long Time past yearly to the Glory of the

most high and sacred Trinity within the parish and collegiate Church of the blessed Mary of Shrewsbury And they fearing and deeply considering that the said Fraternity cannot continue for that the same Fraternity is not rightfully and lawfully founded and established although the same Fraternity may be piously and devoutly continued have humbly besought us that We would please to cherish with our most benignant and especial Favour their pious and devout Intentions in this Behalf We the premises duly considering and providently desirous that there be a Fraternity or Guild of such Men of the Mystery aforesaid within the Town aforesaid at all future Times for ever and that it be continually kept up and taking upon our own person to found such Fraternity or Guild of the Men abovesaid on account of the Devotion which we specially bear and have towards the glorious and holy Trinity And being willing to be called for ever the Founder of the same Fraternity or Guild to the praise Glory and Honor of the most holy Trinity and desirous rather to augment than to diminish those Things which are or may be to the praise or Honor of the same as We are particularly bound of our special Grace and of our certain Knowledge and mere Motion have made founded created erected and established and by these presents Do make found create erect and establish in all future times for ever to continue a certain Fraternity or Guild of our aforesaid liege Men the Men of the said Mystery of Drapers of our Town aforesaid and other faithful Christians whomsoever willing to be of the same Fraternity or Guild to find and support one Chaplain to celebrate divine Service every Day for our Estate and the Estate of the Brothers and Sisters of the same Fraternity or Guild whilst living and for the Souls of us and of our most dear Father Richard of famous Memory and of Edmund late Earl of Rutland our Brother and of other our progenitors Heirs and Successors and the Souls of the Brothers and Sisters of the same Fraternity or Guild after they shall have departed this Life and the Souls of all faithful Men deceased and also to support certain poor persons of both sexes who shall likewise pray and intreat for the Estate and Souls aforesaid at the high Altar in the aforesaid parish or collegiate Church for ever Moreover of our more abundant Grace We have granted to the Brothers and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid so by us made founded created erected and established that the same Fraternity or Guild so by us made founded created erected and established be called for ever the Fraternity or Guild of the holy Trinity of the Men of the Mystery of Drapers of our Town of Shrewsbury and that the Brothers and Sisters

of the same Fraternity or Guild so by us made founded erected and established be by themselves one perpetual corporate Community in Deed and Name and that they have perpetual succession and We ordain appoint and create our beloved John Knight a Man of the Mystery aforesaid of our Town aforesaid as Master and Diggory Watur and Richard Watur others of the Mystery of the same Town as Keepers or Wardens of the same Fraternity or Guild for one Year next coming And We will and grant that the same Master and Wardens and the Brothers and Sisters of the same Fraternity or Guild and their Successors may receive and accept any persons whomsoever well affectioned to them as Brothers and Sisters of the same Fraternity or Guild And that the Chaplain and poor persons aforesaid celebrate and pray in the parish or collegiate Church aforesaid as is aforesaid for the Estate and Souls aforesaid according to the Ordinance of the greater and more discreet part of the same Brothers and Sisters and their Successors in this Behalf to be made, And that the Brothers and Sisters of the same Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and their Successors henceforth may be able to elect one Master and two Wardens from themselves for the wholesome Government of the same Fraternity or Guild from Year to Year and so often as for the Advantage and Honor of the same Fraternity or Guild it shall be expedient, and them from their [offices] to amove and expel and also may be able to elect and make another Master and other Wardens into the offices aforesaid according to the Ordinance of the greater and more discreet part of the same Brothers and Sisters and their Successors in this Behalf to be made And that the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid when they shall have been so elected and the Brothers and Sisters of the same Fraternity or Guild by us as aforesaid founded and established and their Successors be called for ever the Masters and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild of the holy Trinity of the Men of the Mystery of Drapers of the Town of Shrewsbury And that the same Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters and their Successors by the Name of the Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild of the holy Trinity of the Men of the Mystery of Drapers of our Town aforesaid by themselves be persons fit and in the Law capable to acquire and receive in Fee and perpetuity Lands Tenements and other possessions whatsoever to hold to them and their Successors for ever And also that the same Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters and their Successors by the same Name and under their Name

may plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in any of the Courts and places whatsoever of us our Heirs and Successors and in the Courts and places of others whomsoever as well before us our Heirs and Successors as before any spiritual and temporal Justices and Judges whomsoever in all manner of Actions real personal and mixed Suits plaints and Demands according to the Laws and Customs of our Kingdom of England and to do exercise and receive all other Things in the same manner as other our liege Subjects persons fit and capable within our same Kingdom may plead and be impleaded and perform and do in the Courts and places aforesaid according to the Laws and Customs aforesaid[1] And also that the aforesaid Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters and their Successors may have a common Seal to serve for ever for their Businesses and Acts and that they and their Successors may be able lawfully and with Impunity to make lawful and honest Assemblies of themselves and lawful Statutes and Ordinances as well for the said Chaplain and poor persons aforesaid celebrating and praying for the Estate and Souls aforesaid in Form aforesaid as for the wholesome Government of the Fraternity or Guild abovesaid according to the Exigence of Necessity so often as and when it shall be requisite without the Hindrance Impediment Disturbance or Molestation of us our Heirs or Successors Justices Escheators Sheriffs Coroners or other the Bailiffs or Ministers whomsoever of us our Heirs or Suceessors Moreover of our special Grace certain Knowledge and mere Motion We have given and granted and by these presents Do give and grant to the aforesaid Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid All those our Lands and Tenements Rents and Services with their Appurtenances which We lately had together with Margaret Dakkes[2] and Roger Webbe as well in the Town of Shrewsbury as also in Monksforegate Calneham and Castleforegate in the suburbs of Shrewsbury and elsewhere within the Liberty of the same Town of the Gift and Feoffment of Nicholas Gerrard late of Shrewsbury Esquire and also all those Lands and Tenements Rents and Services with their Appurtenances in Shrewsbury which we lately had of the Gift and Feoffment of Hugh Dyer otherwise called Hugh Berewik[3] To have and to hold all the

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[1] Clause omitted See the Latin..
[2] Daking.
[3] Berewick.

Lands and Tenements Rents and Services aforesaid with all their Appurtenances to the aforesaid Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and their Successors of us and our Heirs by the Services therefore due and of right accustomed to support the Chaplain and poor persons aforesaid and to do other Works of piety for ever And further We have granted and given Licence for us and our Heirs as much as in us lies to the aforesaid Master and Wardens and Brothers and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and their Successors that they may be able to purchase Lands Tenements and Rents to the value of forty pounds by the Year which are not held of us immediately in Chief of any person or persons whomsoever willing to give bequeath or assign the same to them And that they may be able to receive and hold the same to them and their Successors for ever the Statute passed for not putting Lands and Tenements to mortmain or although express mention in these presents is not made of the specialty and certainty of the aforesaid Lands Tenements and the Services thereof and of the true yearly value thereof notwithstanding and this of our special Grace without Fine or Fee to the use of us or our Heirs for the premises or any of them to be paid In Testimony whereof &c. Witness the King at Westminster the twelfth Day of January.

By Writ of privy Seal and of the Date &c.

10th June, 1824.
Translated from an Office Copy of the Inrollment.
HENRY WM. HEWLETT,
Gt. James Street.

In the *Calendarium Rotulorum Patentium de Anno 1 Regis Edwardi Quarti* (A.D. 1461, 2), there is mention made of this Charter. The words are there brief enough, but very significant—"Peramplæ libertates concessæ pannariis villæ Salop' "—very great liberties granted to the Drapers of the Town of Salop—words which seem to imply that the provisions of this Charter were unusually liberal, such as were seldom conferred on any fraternity. The trade in wool and in woollen goods was of the very highest importance to

the prosperity of the realm, and not merely more restrictions were placed upon the importation and exportation of the raw material and the manufactured article, but it was fostered by ample privileges of every kind. The London Drapers had been incorporated only 23 years before, and 5 years later, in 1466, 7, they received only *amplam confirmationem libertatum*. The situation of Shrewsbury on the borders of Wales may partly account for the favour it received, and possibly the King may have desired to strengthen the bonds of attachment to his dynasty in the case of the inhabitants of the most important town of the Marches. Neither Hereford, Worcester, or Gloucester appear to have received similar charters, or to have had such fraternities established by Royal Charter. Mr. Hibbert says:—"There arose considerable competition for the lucrative market which the expansion of Welsh industry was every day rendering more profitable. The inhabitants of Chester made a vigorous attempt to obtain the erection in their city of "a staple for the cottons and friezes of North Wales." Shrewsbury was, however, enabled to prevent the completion of the scheme (Influence and Development of English Gilds, Cambridge University Press 1891, page 92).

To the above copies there is now appended an Act of Parliament of the 8th year of Queen Elizabeth, which throws some light upon the altered circumstances of the Fraternity a century later. The religious and charitable provisions of the Charter, though not abolished, for they still exist, seem to have fallen into the background, and are only incidentally referred to, while the acquisition of wealth and the maintenance of their commercial privileges have become the main objects of their care. The trade with Wales had been for many years a monopoly, and had risen to such a height as to become an object of jealousy and envy to others not so well qualified to carry it on as

they were, and there had been much intrusion and encroachment. This may be gathered from the fact of a Statute having been passed in the previous reign (Philip and Mary) to secure them against the intrusion of others, giving them a monopoly of the Welsh trade, and imposing heavy penalties upon such as infringed it. Such intrusion was to be expected. Increasing civilization had abolished many restrictions in other matters, and the population, since the cessation of the Wars of the Roses, had increased rapidly, and envious eyes regarded the Drapers as being somewhat out of date. It is interesting to note the signs of their prosperity—that they were able "to set on work above 600 persons at one branch of their craft—that they had dealings in Foreign parts," and, incidentally, that they were afraid of being compelled to restrict their charitable relief, the area of which had evidently been enlarged.

The following Act of Parliament concerning the Drapers' Company of Shrewsbury was passed in the year 1566.

Anno octavo Reginæ Elizabethæ.

CAP. VII.

An Act touching Drapers, Cottoners, and Frizers of Shrewsbur

Drapery, Who may u the Trade Occupation Drapers in Shrewsbury or the Liberties thereof, &c What bene the same Company have receive and done to others by buying and selling of Welsh Cloth and Lining.

Forasmuch as in the Town of Shrewsbury in the County of Salop, there hath been time out of mind of man, and yet is, a Company, Fraternity, or Guild of the Art and Mystery of Drapers; which said Company, Fraternity, or Guild, hath been by a great time lawfully Incorporated, and made a Body Politick: (2) which said Corporation and Fraternity, hath by reason of a certain Trade and Occupation of buying and selling of Welsh Cloth and Lining, commonly called Cottons, Frizes, and Plains, which they have had and used amongst them, been able not only to live thereby, but also have at their common costs provided Houses and other Necessaries for poor people within the said Town of Shrewsbury, whom also with further relief they do weekly help and maintain: (3) And by the same their Trade aforesaid, have used most commonly

to set on work above six hundred persons of the Art or Science of Sheermen, or Frizers, within the said Town of Shrewsbury, whereby as well they, as their poor Wives and Families, are wholly maintained and kept; (4) To the impeachment and hinderance of which said Trade, divers Artificers, and other persons within the said Town of Shrewsbury, not being of the said Company or Mystery, nor brought up in the use of the said Trade, have of late with great disorder, upon a meer covetous desire and mind, intromitted with, and occupied the said trade of buying Welsh Cloth or Lining, having no knowledge, experience or skill in the same; by reason whereof, the said ignorant and unskilful persons have and do buy commonly and daily such Welsh Cloth and Linings as is defective, and not truly made according to the good Laws and Statutes of this Realm in that behalf provided: (5) By means whereof, the said Trade is greatly decayed and discredited, to the great loss and hinderance of such poor Sheermen and Frizers, as were wont to be set on work thereby, and of all others that were wont to be maintained and relieved by the said Trade, as well in making as working of the said Frizes, Cottons and Plains, and to the great deceit, damage and hinderance of all the Queens Majesties Subjects that buy and provide the same, and to the slander and discredit of the said Commodities in Foreign Parts, where, by the occasion aforesaid, they are grown out of estimation and credit.

The inconveniences that unskilful persons do, that deal in a Trade where of they are ignorant.

II. And where moreover in the Parliament holden at Westminster, in the fourth and fifth years of the Reign of our late Sovereign Lord and Lady, King Philip and Queen Mary, upon good and deliberate advice, amongst other things it was enacted, That no person or persons which should buy to sell again, by way of retail, or otherwise, any of the said Welsh Linings, should dress or work, or cause to be dressed and wrought within his or their dwellinghouse or houses, or in any other place by himself or his servant, any of the said Welsh Linings, but should put the same to some such person or persons as should be of the Art or Science of Sheermen, Cottoners, or Frizers, to be by them wrought and dressed, upon pain of forfeiture for every Welsh Cloth or Lining frized or cottoned to the contrary, Six shillings and eight pence,

The good intent of the Statute of 4 & 5 P. & M. 5.

as in the same Act doth appear: (2) Sithence which time, divers persons for the defrauding of the said Statute, have caused others to buy the said Frizes, Cottons and Plains, and than to take the workmanship thereof unto themselves, of such buyers, using the like fraud, by buying and turning work over unto the same persons of whom they receive work, to the manifest defrauding of the good intent and meaning of the said Statute:

By what fraudulent means the good intent of the said Statute is defeated.

III. For remedy whereof, and for the benefit and relief of the poor men that be Sheermen and Frizers, (2) Be it enacted by the authority of this present Parliament, that from and after the Feast of Easter next ensuing, no manner of person or persons whatsoever inhabiting and dwelling within the said Town of Shrewsbury, or the Liberties and Franchises of the same Town, other than such as have, or shall have served as Apprentices in the said Occupation and Science of Drapers, or be, or shall be free of the said Science or Mystery, shall occupy, use, exercise or frequent the said Trade, Art, Mystery or Science of buying of the said Welsh Cloth or Lining, Cottons, Frizes and Plains, nor having any Factor or doer for him or them in the same, nor by any colour, engine or fraud, by any Occupier of the said Frizes, Cottons, and Plains, (3) upon pain that every person and persons, inhabiting as is aforesaid, and occupying, using or exercising the said Trade, Occupation or Science of buying of Welsh Cloth and Lining, and not authorised by this present Act, shall lose and forfeit for every piece of the same Clothes so bought, Six shillings and eight pence.

No person inhabiting in Shrewsbury, shall occupy the Trade of buying of Welsh Cottons, &c., unless he be free thereof. Rep. 14 El. 12.

IV. And over that, be it further enacted, That no person dwelling and inhabiting, as is aforesaid, and using and occupying the said Trade of buying of Frizes, Cottons or Plains, shall use or exercise the Faculty of Frizing or Cottoning, upon pain to incur such like forfeitures for every offence, as is above mentioned: (2) The moiety of all such pains and forfeitures above mentioned, shall be to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her Heirs and Successors, and the other moiety to such person or persons as will sue for the same in any Court of Record, by Action, Bill or Plaint of Debt; wherein no Protection, Essoin, Injunction or Wager of Law shall be allowed and admitted.

He that occupieth the Trade of buying of Frizes, Cottons, &c., shall not exercise to Frize or Cotton.

A Proviso for them that occupied before the Trade of buying of Welsh Cloth.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this present Act, or any thing, sentence or matter therein contained, shall not extend, or be in any wise prejudicial or hurtful to any such person or persons as have heretofore used, occupied, or frequented the said Trade, Art, Mystery or Science of buying or selling of Welsh Clothes or Linings aforesaid, but that every such person or persons which hath or have used the said Trade or Science as is aforesaid, shall and may have and enjoy the like benefit, commodity and advantage, as well in buying and selling the said Welsh Clothes and Linings as otherwise, in as large, free and ample manner and form, as if this Act had never been made.

Occupiers of the Trade of buying and selling Welsh Cloth, shall pay to their Sheermen ready money.

VI. And further, to the intent the said poor Sheermen, Frizers and Cottoners, may be the better relieved and maintained, (2) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every person and persons occupying and using, or which hereafter at any time shall occupy or use the said Trade, Science or Art of buying or selling of Welsh Cloth and Linings aforesaid, and shall from the Feast of Easter next ensuing, deliver any Welsh Cloth or Linings aforesaid, to be cottoned, frized, dressed or wrough, to any Sheerman, Cottoner or Frizer, shall deliver, content and pay to the said Sheerman, Cottoner or Frizer, ready and present money for all his said work, without any colour, fraud or engine whatsoever, and shall not deliver any Ware or other thing whatsoever in contentation or satisfaction of his said work, or any part thereof, (3) upon pain that every person offending in that behalf, shall forthwith lose all such Liberties, Freedoms and Priviledges, which he hath or shall have, as one of the said Company, Fraternity or Guild of the said Art and Mystery of Drapers; and also shall for ever after, be utterly disabled and excluded to use, occupy or enjoy, by himself, or by any other for him, or to his use, the said Trade, Art, Mystery or Science of buying or selling of Welsh Clothes or Linings; This Act, or any other matter or thing whatsoever to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

There are words and phrases in the Act which are not readily understood at the present day, some of which I will endeavour to explain. *ex. gr.*

Welsh Cloths must mean woollen cloth, more or less of the nature of what we now call flannel, serge, and tweed.

Linings I take to be linens; first manufactured in England by Flemish weavers, under the protection of Henry III., in 1253. Before that era, woollen shirts were worn. The cultivation of both flax and hemp was insisted on by Henry VIII.

Cottons.—When cloth is finished or rises to a regular nap, it is said to *cotton.* This word may therefore be regarded as denoting such cloths as had a nap raised by teasles, and which were *sheared* to an uniform length by the faculty of shearmen, or sheremen, whom they employed in such numbers.

Frizes or *friezes* denotes a coarse narrow cloth much in use. Garments having long wool were said to be friezed. Archdeacon Nares says it was a sort of coarse warm cloth, probably made first in *Friesland.*

Plains, or *playns.*—Cloth simply woven, without any after-dressing.

Sheermen or *Frizers* (Scherman, tondeur) cloth dressers, who clip off the nap uniformly.

Intromitted, interfered.

Essoin or *essoine* here signifies an excuse.

Wager of Law.—When one *wages his Law* (vadiat legem) he shall bring with him so many of his neighbours as the Court shall assign (Sir Edward Coke says eleven) to swear with him, that they think he hath sworn truly; who in the civil law are called *Compurgators.* Coke on Littleton says it is called Wager of Law because in old time the Party did engage with Surety to make his Law by such a Day.

Engine or Ingine means contrivance, from Latin *ingenium.*

N.B.—The illustration which forms the frontispiece to this paper is a reproduction by Mr. H. Hughes, of Belmont, Shrewsbury, of a water-colour in his possession, painted by Mr. Philip Brown about 1825.

Yours truly

James F. O'Gorman

ADMITT & NAU

IN MEMORIAM: THE REV. AND HON. GEORGE THOMAS ORLANDO BRIDGEMAN,

HONORARY CANON OF LIVERPOOL.

By Mrs. BALDWYN CHILDE.

By the death of George Bridgeman, Rector of Wigan, Shropshire, Staffordshire, and Lancashire have sustained the loss of one of their most indefatigable and learned recorders of family and place history. He died at the Hall, Wigan, on Monday, Nov. 25th, 1895, and although since 1888 his health has caused anxiety to his friends, he worked bravely on, amid the arduous duties and numberless calls of a large parish, and literally died in harness.

His self-denying life, his devotion to his work, his loving sympathy and kindness and courtesy to all, and his enthusiastic interest in everything he undertook, will be long remembered by his many friends and parishioners. He lies buried near his wife's grave in the Churchyard of Blymhill, Staffordshire.

The Hon. George Thomas Orlando Bridgeman was the second son of the second (Bridgeman) Earl of Bradford, and was born at Castle Bromwich August 21, 1823.

The family of Bridgeman hails from Devonshire, and Edward Bridgeman was Sheriff of Exeterin1578. His grandson and heir, John Bridgeman, was Rector of Wigan from 1616 to 1643, Chaplain to King James I., and consecrated Bishop of Chester 1618.[1]

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[1] There is a picture of Bishop Bridgeman at the Hall, Wigan, on which is painted in one corner the "Earth" (a globe) and far above it a sunny heaven, with a reference to Luke xvi., ver. 26, and these words, GRATIA DEI PONS HOMINI—being a play upon the Bishop's name Bridgeman.

He died at his son's house at Moreton, near Oswestry, in 1652, and is buried at Kinnerley, Shropshire. His son and heir, Sir Orlando Bridgeman, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and afterwards Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, purchased the advowson of Wigan shortly after the Restoration, and the presentation still remains with his descendant, the present Earl of Bradford. By his marriage with the daughter and heiress of John Kynaston of Moreton, near Oswestry, the connection of the Bridgemans with this county commenced, and was further increased by the marriage of Sir John Bridgeman (his grandson) with Ursula, sole heiress of Roger Matthews of Blodwell, Shropshire.

Through the marriage of Sir Orlando Bridgeman of Castle Bromwich, in 1719, with Lady Anne Newport, the Bridgemans became possessors of Weston in Staffordshire and the representatives (in the female line) of the ancient Shropshire family of Newport of High Ercall, which for many centuries has taken an active part in the history of the county.

An ancestor of the Newports was living in Shropshire in the reign of King John, and Thomas Newport, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1404, obtained the Manor of High Ercall by marriage with Anne, daughter and sole heir of John de Ercalewe, whose arms the Newports quartered.[1] William Newport, Sheriff of Shropshire 1472, greatly increased his family estate by his marriage with Elizabeth, one of the four daughters and coheirs of Sir John Burgh of Wattlesborough and Mawddwy. Her descendants share with those of her three sisters the representation of the ancient families of Clopton, Mawddwy, the Princes of South Wales, and the Princes of Upper Powys. Sir Richard, a member of the Marches of Wales, became by his marriage with the heiress of Lord Chief Justice Bromley the possessor of the beautiful estate of Eyton-on-Severn, near Wroxeter. Sir Francis, his son, built a fine gabled

[1] See Bridgeman's *History of the Newport Family*, page 6.

house at High Ercall (which still exists as a farmhouse). The date, 1608, and the builder's name are recorded on a stone inserted in the wall; it was garrisoned for Charles I. The Peerages which were bestowed on the Newports are now extinct, and the immense possessions which they inherited through the successive heiresses of the Ercalls, Burghs, and Bromleys have passed away to others.

Mr. George Bridgeman was educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge, and took his M.A. degree in 1845. He spent one year at the Theological College at Wells, and in 1849 was ordained Deacon by George (Murray) Bishop of Rochester, his title to Holy Orders being Domestic Chaplain to his father. He served the Curacy of South Fleet, and in 1850 the curacy of Bolton-le-Moors in Lancashire.

The same year he was presented by Lord Forester to the Rectory of Willey, with the perpetual Curacy of Barrow.

1853 he was instituted to the living of Blymhill.

1863 was appointed Rural Dean of Brewood.

1864 he was instituted by the Bishop of Chester to the important charge of Wigan in Lancashire.

1865 appointed Rural Dean of Wigan.

1868 became Honorary Chaplain to the Queen.

1872 Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

1872 he was collated by the Bishop of Chester to an honorary Canonry in Chester Cathedral, and in

1880 he was transferred to Liverpool, on the creation of that Diocese.

Mr. Bridgeman was J.P. for the counties of Salop and Stafford, Chaplain to the Wigan Volunteers, a member of the Governing Bodies of Rossall School, Cleobury Mortimer Agricultural College, Wigan Grammar School, and Standish Grammar School.

He built the Rectory (the Hall) at Wigan from designs by Mr. Street. He built a Nurses' Home there, and largely contributed to various improvements in the Parish Church.

He was one of the original Vice-Presidents of the Shropshire Archæological Society, and was one of the Trustees of the William Salt Library at Stafford and a member of the Editorial Committee of the William Salt Archæological Society.

His contributions to the *Transactions* of the Shropshire Archæological Society were:—

Some Account of the Families of Beysin, Morehall and Clopton Lords of Billingsley, co. Salop, vol. i., p. 281.
The Mitton and Ludlow Pedigrees, vol. ix., p. 391.
Some Account of the Family of Bromley of Eyton-upon-Severn, vol. i., p. 1.
Some Account of the Family of Forester of Watling Street and now of Willey in the County of Salop, vol. iii., p. 151.

To the Historical Collections of a *History of Stafford shire* he contributed:—

The Manor and Parish of Blymhill, vol. i.-ii., 1880-1.
The Parish of Church Eaton, Orslow, High Onn, Little Onn, Shushions, and Marston, co. Staff., vol. iv., 1884.
An Account of the Family of Swynnerton, vol. vii., 1886.

History of the Church and Manor of Wigan, published by the Chetham Society, 1888.
The Princes of South Wales (Wigan), 1876.
The Princes of Upper Powys, *Collectanea Archæologia*, 1862.
Ancient Lords of Mechain, *Arch. Cambrensis*, 1863.
The Welsh Lords of Kerry and Arwystli.
Genealogical Account of the Family of Newport of High Ercall, co. Salop (Bridgnorth).
The Life of Bishop Bridgeman, *Palatine Note Book*, 1883.
(Edited) A Private Letter from Bishop Bridgeman concerning Loans[1] paid by the Clergy of the Diocese of Chester, 1620, 1622, 1624, 1634, 1636, 1639 (belonging to the Earl of Bradford), 1885.
The Family of Simpson of Babworth (Manchester), 1890.
(Edited) "Recollections of School Days at Harrow more than Fifty Years Ago," by Rev. H. J. Torre (Manchester), 1890.
A History of Weston (unfinished).

[1] Contributions, Subsidies, and Ship Money.

"A DESCRIPTION OF Y^E CLEE, Y^E L'DSHIPS, COMONERS AND STRAKERS ADJOYN'D, MADE ABOUT 1612, 10 JAC."

TRANSCRIBED BY THE REV. R. C. PURTON, M.A.

THE following Survey of the Forest of Clee is among the Papers at Faintree, an estate once belonging to Oliver Briggs, brother of Humphrey Briggs of Ernestree Park, for whom apparently it was made.—R. C. P.

Here is shewed wh'ch is the Forest Soyle. And adjoining to which is the soyle of y^e Wast of sev'all L'dships within the Jurisdiction of the said Forest [margin].

The Forrest Wast of Lesclives, al's Cley, al's Cleys, al's Clee, al's Browne Clee is the Top of all the Hill, and one slang thereof doth extend and descend down to the Pale of Ernestry Parke between two places upon the Hill, the one whereof lying southward is a dingle or Gutter extending from a Place called Hay Meadow down to a place in y^e Parke call'd the Pale Head, and the other is a Place near Cleobury way near Ditton wood called the Driving out at the Head of a Place called y^e Sidelong Way lying northward and descending from thence down to the Pale at y^e South East Corner of Pugsmore, within that Place is y^e utter bound of y^e L'dsh'p of Ditton. And under y^e rest of the s'd Clives al's Browne Clee there lieth several wast woods and piles belonging to sev'all L'dsh'ps lying under y^e s'd Lesclives and within the Jurisdic'ion of y^e s'd Forest, and severally known by the ancient meares and bounds in manner as hereafter followeth.

The Wast wood of y^e L'dsh'p of Ditton doth reach up near Cleobury way and y^e s'd place called the Driving out and extendeth from thence along Ditton wood head under the s'd Clives unto a mear Oak between Ditton wood and Cleobury Wood at y^e head of Cleobury wood near or over ag'st a Gate

called Colledge Gate, and from thence Cleobury wood extendeth along the head thereof und'r the s'd Clives unto y^e^ upper Oak of y^e^ Mear between Cleobury wood and Burwarton wood, and from thence Burwarton wood extendeth along the head thereof under the s'd Clives unto the Upper Oak of the Mear between Burwarton wood and Loughton wood and soe from thence the lower p'te of y^e^ s'd Clives extendeth along the Head of Loughton Wood to a Place which was called the New Lodge, which the Earl of Shrewsbury did build, wh'ch M^r^ Norton did lately pull down, and hath erected a new House in y^e^ place, and a warren of coneys about it near to a Place called Bottrell's Cross, and soe from thence to and along y^e^ head of y^e^ Wast Wood or soile of y^e^ L'dship of S^t^ Milburge Stoake under y^e^ said Clives unto a place called y^e^ Mouknop. And from thence along y^e^ Head of y^e^ Wast Soile of S^t^ Margarets Clee under y^e^ said Clives near unto a Place called the King's Shield and from thence along the Head of Waste Soile of the L'dship of Abdon under y^e^ said Clives unto a place called y^e^ Pale as afores'd.

Soe that this is the true Boundary of Lesclives, al's Cleys, al's Cley, al's Clees, al's Clee, al's Brown Clee, and the true mears and Bounds of y^e^ Wast Woods and Soiles lying in y^e^ sev'all L'dships under y^e^ said Clives al's Brown Clee, as appeareth by y^e^ Antient and continuall Use thereof. And any other mears were nev' truly known or accounted to lye above y^e^ s'd Woods and y^e^ said Mear Oaks. It is to be noted that y^e^ s'd Lesclives, al's Cleys, al's Clee (Cley ?), al's Clees, al's Clee, al's Brown Clee is an entire thing of itself and lyeth upon y^e^ top of y^e^ Hill from y^e^ Heads of Dittons and Cleoburys Woods to about y^e^ place called Bottrel's Cross and above the afores'd L'dships of Ditton, Cleobury, Burwarton, Looghton, Whethill, Stoake S^t^ Milburge, S^t^ Margaret's Clee and Abdon in manner as is before set forth and may appear by y^e^ ancient and continuall Use thereof for yo Commoners inhabiting in y^e^ afores'd sev'all L'dships have had always severall Use of Common upon y^e^ said Waste Soiles within their s'd severall L'dships as belong to their severall Tenem^ts^, and so de causa Vicinage over the whole Forest and not otherwise, for if any of them did Staff drive or turn out their Cattle unto any other of the Wast Soiles then wherein they inhabited w'ch was their place of true right of common, they were amerced and punished in y^e^ Swanimott Court.

And the rest of y^e^ Com'oners as namely the Inhabitants of Cold West Heath Norncott Tugford Holgate Brocherton Ashfield and Ruthall are com'o'ly called y^e^ Strakers and have

right of Common upon y^e^ fforest Wast or place called Lesclives, al's Clees, al's Brown Clee by reason of their Inhabitancy within y^e^ Jurisdiction of y^e^ s'd Forest and in no o'r place of y^e^ s'd Forest other than de causa vicinage, as may likewise appear by y^e^ antient and continuall use thereof. But must only Staff drive their Cattell over y^e^ s'd L'ds'ps Wasts unto y^e^ Forest Wast called y^e^ Clives or Clee or Brown Clee, and not turn them off before they come thither whereby may appear their right of Com'on to be there. And their common over the rest to be only de causa vicinage.

For Cold Weston are and doe use to drive their Cattle through a place p'cell of the s'd Hill called Stokes Gorst, and from thence to a place called Whitstones, and from thence up a Rack Way between y^e^ Wast Soil of S^t^ Milburge Stoake and y^e^ wast Soil of S^t^ Margarets Clee unto y^e^ said place called y^e^ Mouknop, and may then and there turn out their Cattell to y^e^ Wast Soil called Lesclives or Hay Meadow (being p't of y^e^ s'd Clives) and not before, which plainly appeareth to be y^e^ lower Skirt of Lestclives of y^e^ uppermost p'ts of y^e^ L'dships of S^t^ Milburge Stoake and S^t^ Margarets Clee for that they cannot put of their Cattel till they come to y^r^ s'd Clee above y^e^ s'd Mouknop whereby Cold Westons right of Com'on is upon y^r^ Wast Soil called ye Clives al's Brown Clee and not upon any of y^e^ Wasts of y^e^ o'r L'dships, but only de causa vicinage, as y^e^ rest of y^e^ Strakers have their right of Common as afores'd, as is well knowne to ye Country.

And the Strakers Inhabiting in y^e^ Townships of y^e^ Heath Nornecott and Tugford are and have used to drive up their Cattle along a way betweene y^e^ said Waste Soile of S^t^ Margaret's Clee and y^e^ Waste Soile of Abdon, near unto a place called ye Kings Shield, and there are to put of their Cattle in the s'd place called the Hay Meadow being p'cell of y^e^ said Clives al's Brown Clee as aforesaid, and if they Staff drive or put them off before they come to that place they have been used to be fined and amerced.

And the Strakers inhabiting in Brockerton and Holgate are and have always used to drive up their Cattle thorow Ernestry Parks to a place called the Pinfold Close and from thence up the pale side through a place called Abdon's Marsh to a place called y^e^ Pale Head and from thence up y^e^ sidelong way to y^e^ s'd place above Ditton's Wood called the Driving Out which was their Common and usual place to turn off their Cattle before they can put them off. And then they may put of their cattle above y^e^ s'd place and not before into y^e^ said Clives al's Clees al's Clee al's Brown Clee.

And the Strakers inhabiting in Ashfield and Routhall are and have always used to drive their Cattell up Pugsmore and the said Wast Wood of Ditton until they come to a place where a Birtch did lately stand at Ditton Wood Head below Cleobury Way, and then might turn out their Cattle above that place, whereby most plainly appeareth that those places are the uppermost parts of the Lordship of Ditton and the lowermost part of the Forest Waste soile of Lesclives al's Clees al's Clee al's Brown Clee. And it is to be noted that Strakers did pay yearly Rents for their Common upon the said Clee and some of them doe soe still which they call by y^e^ name of the Clee Rent.

The names of y^e^ sev'all Townships and Places which did appear at y Court Swanimott of Humphry Brigges Esq^r^ for his Forest of Clee al's Brown Clee in the County of Salop, held at Ernestry within the sd Forest y^e^ 4^th^ day of December in the year of the Reign of our Sov'aign Lord King James of England France and Ireland the fifteenth and of Scotland y^e^ fifty-first, before Rich^d^ Dod Esq. then and there deputed Steward &c.

Aston, Tugford, Nornecott, Heath, S^t^ Margaret's Clee, Stoke S^t^ Milborow, Kingston, Bockleton, Newton, Downton, Cold Weston, Bromdon, Whettle, Loughton, Burwarton, Cleobury North, Middleton, Darrington, Sidnall, Ruthall, Holgate, Brockhampton, Ashfield, Ernestry, Bottrell's Aston, Heywood and Norton, Pryor's Ditton.

All which Townships have Com'on of pasture on the Clee Hill.

NOTE.—The rights here described appear to resemble the "Venville tenure which still obtains on Dartmoor. The word "Meare" from the context is evidently the same as Mark, March, and signifies boundary (A. S. Mearc,—the final sound being lost). As regards the word "Straker," there is a M. E. word "straken," to roam or wander, which occurs in Piers Ploughman, which represents the dialect of this neighbourhood. It is applied here, apparently, to the outlying districts, and the inhabitants would have to travel some distance (*Cp.* our word "Tramp"). "Swanimott" represents A. S. Swán-gemót, an assembly of Herdmen or "Swains" (*Cp. Blackstone*, Bk. iii., cap. 6). For "*de causa* vicinage," *Cp. Blackstone*, Bk. ii., cap 3.—R. C. P.

THE OTTLEY PAPERS RELATING TO THE CIVIL WAR.

EDITED BY WILLIAM PHILLIPS, F.L.S.

(*Continued from Vol. VII., Second Series, p.* 360.)

BEFORE passing from the year 1643, a brief survey of the general situation of the King's affairs in Shropshire may be permitted.

The appointment of Sir Francis Ottley Governor of Shrewsbury in January, and the strong garrison established there under his command, kept in check the element of discontent in the town, but not without much difficulty. It was found necessary that he should exact from the inhabitants, on pain of death, a declaration of loyalty, worded in the most stringent terms.[1]

Most of the influential families in the county espoused the Royal cause, but many of them assumed a neutral position, and not a few were antagonistic. Nevertheless the wealth, social influence, and military power on the side of the King predominated, and Shropshire was universally regarded as a Royalist county. Up to the month of August no Parliamentary garrison existed within its borders, Nantwich in Cheshire being the nearest. This, however, was particularly active, Sir William Brereton making it the base of his operations both for Cheshire and Shropshire. An attempt was made by Sir Thomas Ashton to obtain possession of it in January, which entirely failed, and he sustained a severe loss. It is probable that this disaster led the King, in the following March, to appoint

[1] Cal. St. Pap., 1641-4, p. 437.

a more capable commander-in-chief in the person of Lord Capel—a brave man, an experienced soldier, and a great favourite at Court—to act in Shropshire, Worcestershire, Cheshire and North Wales, under the Prince of Wales. He commenced without delay an inspection of the three garrisons, Shrewsbury, Ludlow, and Bridgnorth ; ordered the defences of those towns to be further strengthened, and a more careful watch to be kept. Puckering, one of his officers, states that he established, at Shrewsbury and Chester, powder works,[1] and "mills for iron," and that he was thus enabled to supply powder to Prince Rupert, when he sat down before Lichfield; and that he raised his regiment to 400 men, while Colonel Wynn raised a regiment of foot in Denbighshire, and Sir Michael Woodhouse raised another. With these forces he occupied Whitchurch, where he would be able to secure his line of communication between Shrewsbury and Chester, and at the same time keep in check the Nantwich garrison. It was not till July that he occupied Oswestry, ordered the inhabitants to make good the defences, and placed as Governor there Edward Lloyd of Llanforda, thus securing the road into Denbighshire.

The Parliament observed these precautions to retain a firm hold of Shropshire with much concern. In April they appointed a strong Committee of twenty of their friends "for the Association of the counties of Warwick, Stafford, and Salop."[2] And in June was

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[1] Sir Francis Ottley employed a "powder-man" before Lord Capel's appointment here. See Letter XXIII.

[2] 10 April, 1643.

The Committee appointed by an Ordinance of Parliament for the Association of the Counties of Warwick, Stafford, and Salop :—

William Pierpoint, Esq., of Tong Castle, M.P. for Wenlock.

Sir John Corbet, of Stoke and Adderley, Knt. and Bart., M.P. for Shropshire.

Sir Gilbert Cornwall, of Burford, Knight.

Sir Morton Brigges, of Haughton near Shifnal, Baronet.

issued a commission to Sir Thomas Middleton to be Sergeant Major-General of the forces in North Wales. The first step was to discover where they could establish the most effective garrison for the annoyance of their adversaries. Wem was the only town unoccupied near the centre of the county, and although only 10 miles from Shrewsbury and 8½ miles from Whitchurch, they boldly determined to occupy it. Garbett's account of this event is as follows:—"After the taking of Bristol, July 26th, 1643, the gentlemen above mentioned (Mr. Mytton, Mr. Mackworth, and Mr. Thomas Hunt, M.P. for Shrewsbury), attended by Mr. Richard Baxter, the famous dissenting minister, having got a small body of troops about the latter end of August, settled a garrison at Wem, being the first the Parliament had in this county. To fortify the town, a rampart, or wall of earth, was thrown up: which began at Drayton gate, a little beyond Robert James's house (which house was built for a sentry), and ran along the side of Sandland's yard, and about fourscore yards into Cordwall, where it formed an angle, defended by a wooden tower," and so continued,

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Richard More, Esq., M.P. for Bishop's Castle.
Thomas Mytton, of Shrewsbury, Esquire.
Robert Corbet, of Stanwardine-in-the-Wood, Colonel and afterwards Major-General in the Parliamentary Army, Esquire.
Andrew Lloyd, Esq., of Aston, Colonel in the Parliamentary Army.
Thomas Nichols, of Boycot, near Pontesbury, Esquire.
Humphrey Mackworth, of Betton Strange, Esquire.
John Corbet, of Auson, Esquire.
Launcelot Lee, of Coton, near Alveley, Esquire.
Robert Talbot, Esquire.
Samuel More, of Linley, Gent.
Thomas Hunt, M.P. for Shrewsbury, Gent.
Hercules Kinnersley, of North Cleobury, Gent.
William Rowley, of Shrewsbury, Gent.
Thomas Knight, of Shrewsbury, Gent.
John Proud, of Shrewsbury, Gent.
John Lloyd, of Shrewsbury, Gent.

(K.P., 118-7, Phillips' *Civil War in Wales*, ii., 122. I have added their residences, &c.)

enclosing the town. The earth thrown out of the ditch made the wall, which was strengthened by a palisade, a whole coppice in the township of Lacon being used for the purpose. All houses and buildings without the wall were burnt, to prevent their giving shelter to the enemy.[1]

The occupation of Wem was a challenge too bold to remain long unaccepted by Lord Capel, although it was not till October that he endeavoured to recapture it.[2] He mustered all the forces that could be spared from Shrewsbury and the surrounding garrisons, taking his position on Prees Heath, midway between Whitchurch and Wem, with 5,000 men, designing to attack it before the defensive works were finished. But discovering that Sir William Brereton with his Cheshire forces had quitted Nantwich to defend Wem, he suddenly changed his purpose and marched to the former place to secure it in their absence. In this his Lordship was mistaken. Sufficient strength remained to keep him at bay, so that after some skirmishing he marched back under cover of the night by a different route, evading Brereton who had discovered his tactics, and hastened to Nantwich only to find that Capel had retired. A rapid march of twenty miles over a bad road, and the fact that night had overtaken the Parliamentary forces, compelled Brereton to allow his men some rest, before returning to protect Wem. He commenced retracing his steps at four o'clock next morning. In the meantime the Royalists had commenced their attack upon Wem, in which there were only about 300 men under the command of Col. Mytton. These with the assistance of the townspeople defied the Cavaliers,

[1] Garbett's *History of Wem*, p. 216, in which the entire course of the defensive work is precisely traced.

[2] Puckering states that "a little before this my lord had shewn us great gallantry and skill in storming and taking Loppington Church, where the enemy had fixed a garrison, till my Lord forced them out, and was the busiest among his soldiers in carrying faggots to the porch." (Duke of Beaufort's MS., Hist. MSS. Com.)

and it is asserted in an account of "W.B.,"[1] "that one of Colonel Mytton's drakes killed sixty of the King's party at one shot." Puckering states that when at break of day they were before Wem they dismounted about eighty horse, stormed it, and some of their men on the works laid hold of their cannon, but unluckily it fell out "that notwithstanding all this, Wynn, Colonel of the Welsh regiment, being there settled [*i.e.*, killed] Colonel Scriven of the trained bands, and Major Broughton, of Sir Michael Woodhouse's regiment, being shot, all the example and persuasion of my Lord Capell could use to them did signify nothing, the soldiers would not fall in again, but lost this glorious opportunity of recovering Wem with so much ease and good contrivance, as the greatest soldiers, and most experienced in the world, could not have designed better. Indeed this moved my glorious Lord's stomach so much, that after sheding several tears of rage and anger he would not remove out of those trenches, which he had so lately mastered, although they made many desparate shots at him, until he had taken out his pipe, and his friends in a moment forced him away."[2] The Roundhead account avers that all the time of the action lord Capel sat smoking his pipe about half a mile from Wem, on the Soulton road. Had he boldly led his men on to the attack, and stormed several places at once, he could not have failed of success; there being only forty soldiers, and an undisciplined rabble of men and women to oppose him. The women particularly distinguished themselves, which gave occasion to this rhyme:—

> "The women of Wem, and a few musketteers
> Beat the Lord Capel, and all his cavaliers."

By this time Brereton had returned towards Wem, and Lord Capel, being in no humour to face him,

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[1] "A true relation of a great Victory obtained by the Parliament's Forces against the Cavaliers near Chester."

[2] Hist. MSS. Com.

marched in the direction of Shrewsbury by the Lee Brockhurst road; when at Lee Bridge, about two and a half miles from Wem, Brereton caught him up, and a skirmish ensued. Favoured by the nature of the ground, and night coming on, the Royalists were not pursued.

Besides Colonel Wynn (of Melai, Denbighshire) slain,[1] Colonel Scriven, Colonel Willis, and Captain Manlye wounded (the first mortally), there were taken prisoners Captain Chapman, Captain Davies; there were six carriages of bodies taken away, and thirty more left on the ground. The only important officer slain on the Parliament side was Major Marrow.

This event had the natural effect of raising the spirits of the discontented party in Shrewsbury, who at once commenced to lay a plot for the betrayal of the town; but the Governor was too vigilant for them; he seized the ringleaders, and committed them to prison, some of whom were afterwards executed. The following entry in the Mayor's Accounts, 29th Dec., 1643, relates, doubtless, to the gallows used on the occasion:—

Item, for timber to make a gibett	0	9	0
It. for three men, theyer work at the same ..	0	3	6
It. for John Davies his time to carry the same...	0	1	6

In September a cessation of arms in Ireland was arranged, by which a large body of troops was set at liberty, and in an unfortunate moment the King accepted their services in the war with his English and Scottish subjects. On November 18th, 2,500 landed at Mostyn to defend Chester, and on the 29th Lord Byron joined them with a force of 1,300 men, and took command of the whole. Hawarden Castle, taken by Brereton on the 11th November, capitulated on the 2nd December; Beeston Castle and Crewe House were

[1] Colonel William Wynn was buried at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury Oct. 27. Owen and Blakeway, ii., p. 222.

captured in rapid succession, and Nantwich was the next place aimed at. Never since the beginning of the war had the prospects of the Parliament in these parts been more gloomy. Two of their Committee, "A.LL." [Andrew Lloyd] and "R.C." [? Robert Corbet, of Stanwardine], wrote to Humphrey Mackworth, Dec. 21st:—"The enemy are potent in Cheshire. Nantwich is surrounded, the country round about plundered, 19 colours more of the Irish come over, and no considerable force to contend with the enemy." They entreat Mackworth "to represent our forlorn condition to ye Parliament, for whom we have desparately engaged our estates and lives. We hope they account us friends worthy of some consideration and pitty, and not to suffer us to perish in ye midst of mercilis men."[1]

During the temporary cessation of operations on the approach of Christmas, several persons of distinction appear to have met together within the walls of Shrewsbury, where the usual civilities to eminent visitors were shown to them by the Mayor, Mr. Robert Betton, junr. Lord Byron, who had recently been created Baron Byron of Rochdale, as a reward for his valiant services in the first battle of Newbury, and had been still more recently made Field Marshall of Cheshire, Shropshire, and North Wales, arrived here the day after the date of his appointment:—

Nov. 30 (1643.)
Bestowed upon Lord Biron, a gallon of sack, vi^{s}
2^{li} of Sugar, and 2 doss. [dozen] cakes, viii^{d}

Sir Nicholas Byron, Governor of Chester, arrived the 2nd January.

Paid for 1^{li} of sugar and 1 dossen of cakes bestowed on Sir Nicholas Biron, iiij^{s}.

Colonel Robert Ellice, of Groesnewydd, near Wrexham, and no doubt many others, were here to discuss

[1] Lord Denbigh's MSS.

the position of affairs, and congratulate each other on the improved condition of the King's cause in Shropshire and the surrounding counties.

1644.

The year 1644 at which we have now arrived, an eventful one in the history of the war, when a new commander in the person of Prince Rupert appears in Shropshire, a large influx of Irish soldiers takes place, and the official position of Sir Francis Ottley is changed, affords us a much reduced correspondence. This arose from the additional help in the performance of his onerous duties rendered to the Governor of Shrewsbury by Sir John Mennes, Mr. Arthur Trevor, and other officers appointed by Lord Capel; and the necessity of his laying much of his correspondence before the council established for conducting the more important business of the garrison. Early in January Sir Robert Ellis was busily engaged in raising 1,200 men in Denbighshire and Flintshire, in which work he was assisted by Captain Morris, and he is shortly after found co-operating with Col. Sir William Vaughan in the capture of Apley Castle.

CLXXXIX. SIR ROBERT ELLICE TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1643-4.

Sir

I have thought it more proper for Mr. Thomas Atkis to be a conductor of the Artillery for the present then to be with me, I entreat you to Assure him I will take a particular care to Advance him upon all occasions, and I am confident he will not repent the employment, nor my care of him, in all things I shall testify my thanks to you for your favours; the Bargeman Richard Bartlam will bring my letter to you if he have not done it already, I again humbly desire you to send a guard along with the Barge.

Ruabon Jan^{ry} 13th 1643. Your humble Servant

For y^{e} right Wor^{ll} S^{r} Francis Oteley Knt, Shrewsbury

Robert Ellice

CXC. THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1643-4.

SIR

I have a necessity of my Armes here for men who will be raised before the Arms can be brought hither. If your Town have occasion of my Men I shall with more willingness bring them thither then any other place I know, being engaged both to the Gentry, and others, for their love to me, but I wou'd not have any March without Arms both for disorder, & Scorn if they should be beset. I desire your favour for Horses to Welch Pool, for the bringing of 200 Mosquetts; by this you shall much oblige him who is bound to be, Yr faithful Servant,

ROBERT ELLICE.

To his much honored Friend Sir Francis Oteley Knt Govr of Shrewsbury.

CXCI. THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1643-4.

SIR

I moved you, att my being at Shrewsbury, for one Steven Davis who hurt one by Oswestree, but the man being now recovered, I desire Capt Morris may have his Soldier for his Majties Service, so I humbly desire you to procure his release. Pray send word to Capt Hosier that as soon as he hath any considerable number of Men he would draw them to Chirk Castle, where I am now with as Many as Capt Morris and myself have raised, perhaps I shall have another employment will be worth the pains.

Chirk Castle
Jany 16th 1643.

I rest
Yr humble Servant
ROBERT ELLICE

To ye right worll his much honor'd
Friend Sr Francis Oteley Kt
Shrewsbury.

Captain George Hosier, alluded to in the above letter, was the son of Richard Hosier of Cruckton,[1] by his wife Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Francis Brooke, of Cotton, co. Salop, and was a Captain of

[1] See CLXXX., note.

Horse in the regiment of Sir William Vaughan. He was appointed, after the Restoration, Governor of Shrewsbury Castle, where he dwelt, at which time he enjoyed the confidence of Francis Lord Newport, the Lord Lieutenant of Salop, by whom he was entrusted to maintain the town against the frequent plots for its betrayal. In 1663, Lord Newport writes to his friend Sir Richard Ottley, son of the former Governor, "It is believed there was a design lately for the surprise of Chester Castle, and by what George Hosier writes to me this last post, I believe no less for Shrewsbury;" and he further adds, "I have written to George Hosier that in that case he be aiding to you with his soldiers, for their present securing in the Castle." He was nominated a member of the Common Council of Shrewsbury in the new Charter of 1664, a document which never came into force. In 1665 he appears to have held the Commission of Colonel. The date of his death is not recorded, but he was dead in 1680. He married Eleanor, daughter of Francis Smith, of Burton, co. Salop, by whom he had Richard Hosier, who bought the manor of Berwick, near Shrewsbury, from Samuel Jones, Esqr., in 1699.

Walter Waring of Owlbury, near Bishop's Castle, was the son of Edmund Waring of the same place, both faithful to the cause of the King. The latter came into possession of the estate by marrying the daughter and heiress of Richard Broughton of Owlbury, Esq., to which property the writer of this letter succeeded on the death of his father. It would appear that loyalty ran in the blood of this family, for it is stated that Walter's younger brother, Robert, a student of Christ Church, Oxford, happened to be a junior Proctor at the Visitation of that University by the Parliamentary Commissioners, when he "boldly withstood their self-constituted authority." (*Trans.* Shrop. Arch. Soc., v, 76.) The reference to the "Generalissimo" may be to Prince Rupert; but this is only conjecture. It is certain that the loyal county gentry

regarded with slight favour, and with no little suspicion, any attempt to supersede the local Commissioners of Array; while for the impetuous Prince they moved much too slowly.

Walter Waring compounded for his delinquency by paying £511.

CXCII. WA. WARINGE TO THE SAME.

1643-4.

S^r^

I shall desire you sometimes at y^r^ leasure to Acquaint us with y^r^ freshest News, we recive it here so various if it be good, & so encreased if bad, that I am doubtfull of all, & refer it as Puritans do to the Text, which I account your lines; this day we were all sum'on'd to Ludlow by a single Sold [sole] Commissioner cased with a Collonell; if this may pass for Current certainly the Array is Extinct, and we are all slaves to the Generalissimo; I refer it to your Sage Wisdom that perchance can tell me, this was not done without the consent of Others the Commissioners, & my Jelousy of his Ambition hath bred in me these vain Surmisses: however I send you the true Copy of his Warrant that Yourself may Judge of it and will remain Your's to Serve you

Owlbury 17 of Jan. WA. WARINGE.

Excuse me to S^r^ Thomas Eyton; I cannot perform his Commands this week, for on Fryday I shall be misled with a tedious Mountain Journey; if you could hear of an Honest Usurer that would trust out £100 by Candlemas, he might preserve me from the spleen of M^rs^ Eliz: Wrotesley; my servis to my Colonel & S^r^ Richard Lee

Y^rs^ W: W:

For S^r^ Francis Oteley Knight
at his House in Shrewsbury
these.

Sir Thomas Eyton of Eyton, Knight, mentioned in the preceding letter, was the son and heir of Sir Philip Eyton of Eyton, Knt., by his wife Maria, daughter of David Yale, LL.D., Chancellor of Chester. He was born 1606, admitted of Oriel College, Oxford, 1624, Knighted October 10, 1642. He married Margaret, daughter of Richard Thornes of Shelvock, Esq., by

whom he had a large family. His name appears to the Declaration and Protestation agreed upon by the Grand Jury to be presented to the King, August 8, 1642; and is ninth on the list of those gentlemen of Salop who signed the "Engagement and Resolution" for raising and maintaining forces at their own cost for the defence of the King and the country, 23rd October of the same year. He served in the regiment of Colonel Scriven, and died March, 1658.

The next letter is in the handwriting of Mr. Thomas Edwardes of Kilhendre, who, as we have seen in a previous letter from him (CLXI.), was engaged in the exchange of prisoners, a task that had brought on him much odium on account of the jealousies it provoked, and which in disgust he declined further to perform. The six months which have elapsed have not tended to restore his composure of mind, and he writes this confidential letter to his kinsman, Sir Francis, expressing his determination to live a more secluded life. As a specimen of the applications for help with which he was assailed I may give a short undated letter from Elinor Cound to Lady Ottley, requesting her ladyship to use her influence with Mr. Edwardes to obtain the release of the writer's husband—not from the enemy as a prisoner of war, but from the Commissioners of his Majesty for raising the subsidies, which it would appear Mr. Cound had not paid.

MADAM,

I would humbly desire the favour of your Ladyship that you would be pleased to write to Mr. Edwards to desire his best favour and assistance for the redeeming of my poor husband who your Ladyship knows is no wise answerable for the contribution of the whole towne, and whom I am willing according to my best ability to ransome. Thus hoping your Ladyship will compassionate my distress, with my best prayers for our good Master, your Ladyship, and all yours, I rest

Your Ladyship's poor Servant
to be Commanded
ELINOR COUND.

To the much honoured
Lady, the Lady Ottley
these present.

CXCIII. THOMAS EDWARDES TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1643-4.

WORTHIE SIR,

Not omitting my respect to your selfe and good Lady I writt unto you of a desire I had to see Sir Thomas Eyton the rather for that I could have menconed him to a Convenient habitacon, yf hee bee resolved to remove. It is parte of my owne dwelling, which, yf any frend of yours want, you may commaund. I desire to confine my selfe to a narrowe . . . theis troublesome tymes and should the rather part with it to a person of worth. I have revealed the secreet of my most private thoughts unto youre selfe craving your advise and assistance; re saluting you with my service

I continue your

Janu. 17 aliseman to serve,

1643. THO: EDWARDES.

To the right Wor'pp my ever
honor'd kinsman Sir Francis
Ottley Knight, att the Coledge Salop, present.

A few contemporary letters from other sources may be introduced here with advantage, as they will help to a clearer conception of local events. The first is from Sir John Mennes, reputed to be the rival of Sir Francis Ottley, to Prince Rupert:—

. . . But for my part I can do his Majesty no service here at all, being made useless by the insulting people, who now tell us their power, and that three of the commissioners of array may question the best of us, from which power good Lord deliver me, and rather send me home from constable to constable to the parish I was born in! I have not heard from my Lord Byron since his loss, but by a letter written to the High Sheriff and governor, which in effect bids us be careful of ourselves, as he will be of those parts, for that the gentlemen are somewhat troubled that they can expect no help from him. Money is a thing not spoken of neither do I perceive your Highness's last letter prevail at all with them, more than yesterday night. They first proffered to give every troop 6^{d}, and, after some dispute, they would have made it up to 12^{d} if it would have been received. I must crave your Highness's pardon if I quit the place, for I have not wherewithall to subsist any longer, having received but £22, now in

eleven months, and lived upon my own, without free quarters for horse or man. The fortune I have is all in the rebels' hands, or in such tenants' as have forgot to pay. The ammunition is not as yet come from Worcester, that I can hear of. This inclosed was sent me from Stafford, whence I hear they intend to draw more force this way from Coventry, which will soon make the neuters of these parts declare themselves, and, I fear, startle some that have been accounted firm. I hope your Highness will pardon this long scribble from the most humblest of your servants,

Hebb, two in the afternoon. JOHN MENNES.[1]

Prince Rupert was appointed Captain-General of all the forces in Shropshire and the counties adjacent January 6, and immediately afterwards informs the Governor of Shrewsbury of the fact. The above letter from Mennes was not calculated to give the Prince a very favourable impression of the state of Shrewsbury, and may account for the sharp tone pervading his letter.

CXCIV. PRINCE RUPERT TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1643-4.

SIR

His Ma^tie^ is pleased to entrust to my care his army in Shropshyre and the countreyes adjacent, togather with his interests there. In which command I cannot but with very much apprehension thinke uppon Shrewsburie in your Government, and the safetie thereof. Especiallie since I understood of a late designe for the betraying thereof to the Enemy, for which you have divers persons in prison, but I doe not here they are brought to justice by any proceedinge against them, soe that the punishment may goe to some, the Example and Terror to all. I must strictly require from you an accompt of that place, which is the Head quarter of those Countreyes, and where I intend to make my owne residence duringe the time of my stay in that commaund, and therefore must recomend to you the particulars followinge: and require you to call togother the Gentlemen and Townesmen to assist you in such charges as will be requisite for the coveringe of

[1] Warburton's *Prince Rupert*, ii., 371. I have not been able to discover where "Hebb" is situated, but on the word of Warburton I take the letter to be from Shropshire.

the Castle of Shrewsbury, and the dividing and disposinge thereof into Roomes capable and fittinge to receive the stores; soe as such amunicion as from time to time shall be sent into those parts for his Ma^ties^ service there may lye dry and safe. I desire this to be done with all possible speed, for I have this day sent awaie 50 Barrels of Powder to begin your stores. Other proportions of that, and all other kind of amunicion, will be speedily brought thither, and for the better security of the stores, which are the sinewes of the King's busines, I pray you, by the advice of Sir John Mennes, to consider of an accommodacon for such as shall be the Guard of that place, by erecting of a Courte of Guard and hutts for the Souldiers, for such numb^r^ of men, and in such manner as you and Sir John Mennes shall thinke best for his Ma^ties^ service. I have no more to say to you at present, but shall willingly receive yo^r^ Letters from time to time concerninge yo^r^ affaires, and you shall be sure of all possible assistance and encouragement from mee.

Your very Lovinge Freind

Oxon, this 25^th^ day of Januarie, 1643. RUPERT.[1]

Superscribed The Governor of Shrewsbury
For Sir Francis Ottley, K^t^
Governor of Shrewsbury.

To this Sir Francis Ottley sent the following reply:—

May it please your Highness.

Our country is heartily glad that his Majesty has intrusted the care of our county into your hands. I shall be obedient to perform your commands. All things shall be performed with all expedition so far forth as the time and season will permit, against your Highness's coming. Justice hath been executed, and one of the corporals under my command hanged for neglect of his duty in his place that night as the enemy approached. The huts and the court of guard shall be ready before your Highness's coming. There is one other condemned, but judgment is deferred till your Highness's coming hither. Our hearts do long for your

[1] This letter is taken from Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, the authors having obtained it from the late Sir John Bickerton Williams of that town. The original does not appear at present to be amongst the Ottley Papers at Pitchford Hall, nor could George Morris have seen it there, otherwise he would have copied it.

presence to settle the distractions and complaints amongst us. I rest

Your servant ready upon all occasions humbly to serve you,

FRANCIS OTTLEY.[1]

Shrewsbury, this last day of January, 1643.

A few days after Sir Francis had despatched the above letter, Sir John Mennes wrote again to the Prince, who had already left Oxford on his way to Shrewsbury, but was detained on the road. Mennes's letter is dated the 9th of February, in which he says "that his Highness must be seen here, and I think felt too, before this hard-hearted people will believe you are coming."[2]

The first successes of the Irish troops, already mentioned, were followed up by a victorious encounter at Nantwich and Middlewich, narrated by Sir Robert Byron to the Marquis of Ormond, in a letter dated January 9th. In this engagement were slain 300 and upwards, 274 taken prisoners, and a good store of excellent arms and ammunition secured. Sir Robert was wounded, as were also three captains, a lieutenant, and 41 soldiers; 15 being killed.[3]

As a counterbalance to this, Colonel Mytton, Governor of Wem, struck a successful blow in Shropshire on January 12th, which is recorded in one of their own papers. Obtaining private information that "the inhuman upstart, Lord Byron," having besieged Nantwich, was sending "a strong convoy to Shrewsbury for arms and ammunition,"[4] Colonel Mytton allowed them to pass through Ellesmere, then the nearest way open between Chester and Shrewsbury, resolving to await their return. "The rebels furnished themselves with

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[1] Warburton's *Prince Rupert*, ii., p. 368.

[2] *Ibid.*, p. 373. Mennes made mischief wherever he went. See Archbishop of York's letter to Prince Rupert. *Ibid.*, vol. iii. p. 55.

[3] Carte's Coll., i., 34; Reprint in Phillips' *Civil War*, ii., 117.

[4] "True Relation of a Notable Surprise," &c. King's Papers, 140-9; also in Phillips.

eight large barrels of powder, seven hundred weight of match and other ammunition," and quartered the first night at Ellesmere, eight miles from Wem, and sixteen from Shrewsbury. Mytton marched from Wem in the night, which, according to Puckering, was "very dark and tempestuous," and fell upon the convoy in the darkness, captured the whole of the ammunition, took prisoners Sir Nicholas Byron, Governor of Chester, Sir Richard Willis, Serjeant-Major-General of the Horse, his brother Major Willis, Captains Offley, Hatton, Dixon, and one other, besides 100 inferior officers and men, and 250 horses and arms.

Another event adverse to the King, and affecting the safety of Shropshire, took place about this time. The Irish troops, flushed with victory, sat down before Nantwich, but on the 25th (January) Sir Thomas Fairfax marched from Manchester to release it, which he was successful in doing. He took prisoners Major-General Gibson, Sir Michael Ernely, Sir Richard Fleetwood, Col. Geo. Monk, Col. Warren, Sir Francis Button, Lieut.-Col. Sir Ralph Dove, Major Hammond, 14 Captains, 20 Lieutenants, 26 Ensigns, two Cornets, besides non-commissioned officers, 1,500 common soldiers, and six ordnance. It is said that 120 women followed the Camp, of whom many had long knives.[1]

Other troops were on the way from Ireland, a large detachment of which was designed for Shropshire, as appears from a letter to the Prince from Sir John Mennes :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have just now received a letter from my Lord Byron, which tells me that 1700 foot are landed out of Ireland, under the command of Tillier and Broughton. These his Lordship intends to send hither, because they cannot make provision there. I shall endeavour here to make what shift I can to assist them, which must be in providing victuals—for money

[1] Sir Thomas Fairfax to the Earl of Essex. Rushworth, pt. iii., vol. ii., 302.

is a thing we hear not of—if your Highness be pleased to write to the high sheriff, to command him to bespeake hose and shoes for them. I know that may be readily done, or any other thing that is not ready money. We have here about five hundred suits of clothes, which I have stayed for your Highness. They should have been sent to Chester; but their own clothes were good enough to run to the enemy.[1] The rebels have forgot their late victory, and reassume their wonted fears and jealousies, which I hope will continue to their confusion, which I am sure will be much hastened by your Highness's presence, which we all greedily expect, though none more than

Salop, Feb. 10th — Your Highness's most humble servant,

The foot will be here within five days. — JOHN MENNES.[2]

Brian Crowther was an influential and active Royalist, and Justice of the Peace for the county of Radnor, of which county he was High Sheriff in 1639 and 1645. "He was a gentleman of unblemished respectability and honour; many arbitration cases were referred to his decision, and particularly a tedious and prolonged litigation between Smalman and John Crowther, his relative, at the instance of the Archbishop of Canterbury." (Williams's *History of Radnorshire.*) He married the sister of Mr. Herbert Price, of Brecknock. Symonds writes:—"Tuesday (Nov. 11, 1645) to Knighton, a pretty towne, Com. Radnor. Here Mr. Crowder, the Sheriff of the Shire, lives."

CXCV. BRI: CROWTHER TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1643-4.

WORTHY Sr

I am informed that one William Jones, a Lieutenant to Sr William Brereton, was taken at the last Battle between my Lord Byron and the Rebels at Namptwich, and is now a

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[1] "Eight hundred of the prisoners [Irish taken at Nantwich] took the Covenant and enrolled themselves under Fairfax." Gardiner, i. p. 295.

[2] Warburton's *Prince Rupert*, ii., 373.

Prisoner in the Goal of Shrewsbury; lest he should be any way exchanged or ransom'd I have purposly sent this bearer, one of the Corporals of our Garrison now in Knighton, to inform you that the aforesaid Will[m] Jones (if he be apprehended) is in our County indicted for Murder, Burglary, and several other Crimes, and hath fledd for the same, and since for this two years last hath born Arms against his Majesty, both in the City of Gloucester and in the Castle of Brompton, both being in Actual Rebellion against his Majesty; Plundering also and Pillageing divers of his Majesty's good Subjects; that it may appear he is Indicted I have sent you a Copy of the record, My humble desire is that you will favour me so much as to give license to this bearer to View the Prisoners in your several Goals (who well knoweth the man), and upon his discovery you will Cause him to be detained till a Writt be sued forth for his removal into this County to take his Tryal, And for this your Especiall favour not only expressed herein to me, but also to our whole County, You shall ever engage me to be, S[r]

Your humble Servant

Knighton 7 Feb. 1643.

BRI: CROWTHER.

To his much honored Friend S[r] Francis Oateley Knight at the Garrison of Shrewsbury present these with my Service.

Colonel Francis Billingsley of Astley Abbotts Manor, co. Salop, was the eldest son and heir of Francis Billingsley of the same place, by Bridget, daughter of Thomas Vernon of Haslington, co. Chester. He married Eleanor, daughter of Thomas Kerry of Bin Weston, co. Salop, took up the Royal cause at an early date, signed the "Ingagement and Resolution of the Gentlemen of Salop" in 1642, held a commission in the trained bands of Bridgnorth as Lieutenant, afterwards Lieut.-Colonel, under the command of the Governor Sir Lewis Kirke, and fell in the Churchyard of St. Leonard's, when the town was besieged, March 31, 1646. He was buried at Astley Abbotts. His sword was preserved by his family down to recent times, and was presented to St. Leonard's Church by Mr. Joseph Instone in 1884.

Mr. Hubert Smith considers that the Royalist Colonel was not the son of Francis who married Bridget Vernon, as stated above on the authority of the late George Morris (MS. Pedigree, in possession of T. S. Eyton, Esq.), but the son of the Francis who married Eleanor Kerry. (S. A. *Trans.*, vol. ix., p. 384.) I am unable to decide which is the correct descent.

CXCVI. FRANCIS BILLINGSLEY TO THE SAME.

1643-4.

Sr

According to promise I shall now acquaint you that Capt: Benett is so happyly recover'd from those desperate wounds, which that desperate Fellow Co. Clyve,[1] gave him, in the Quarrel of Quarter Master Edge that we have Just encouragement to hope. the danger of Death is passed—Yet I have now received Commands from the Capt . . to desire

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[1] Robert Clive of the Styche, co. Salop, belonged to an old family of distinction seated there for many generations, and was a remarkable man, and a "desperate fellow," owing to his zeal, courage, and activity on behalf of the Parliamentary cause in Shropshire and Cheshire. He sat in the Long Parliament as M.P. for Bridgnorth, and was appointed one of the Committee of Parliament for his native county. Immediately after the capture of Shrewsbury, the Mayor and Corporation "In regard of the great love and affection" expressed to the town by "Andrew Lloyd of Aston, Samuel Moore of Linley, Robert Clive of Stiche, and Robert Charlton of Apley, Esquires, four of the comittyes of Parliament for the county of Salop," bestowed on them their burgesseship. At the surrender of Bridgnorth to the Parliament in April, 1646, the same three signed the articles of capitulation as Commissioners for the Parliament. It is said that while the Royalists were dominant in Shropshire, they had so great a dread of Robert Clive, and the Roundhead garrisons of Wem and Nantwich, that they were profane enough to add a new clause to the Litany :—

From Wem and from Wych
And from Clive of the Styche
Good Lord deliver us.

What the nature of the quarrel which led to Robert Clive's assault upon Capt. Benett was we are left to conjecture, but as Quarter-Master Edge was mixed up with it it probably had to do with providing commissary stores for the garrison of Bridgnorth in some way or other, to which Robert Clive objected.

your favour that both of them may be secured, until such time as a Councell of Warr may pass upon them. Which (being well acquainted with Your inclination to do Justice) I presume yow'll readyly grant. And if you please Also to Acquaint Sir John [Mennes] with this request, you will further oblige both the Capt: and also

Brydgnorth 7 Feb. 1643. — Sir Your Unworthy Brother But most Humble Servant

To the very much honor'd Sr Francis Ottley Knt. and Governor of Shrewsbury p'sent these. — FRAN: BILLINGSLEY.

The urgent necessity for money to carry on the War was daily increasing, and the Oxford Parliament authorised the King to issue Privy Seals for a loan of £100,000 in February. It also granted at a later date an excise, in imitation of the excise ordinance at Westminster. The Privy Seals were issued on printed forms, with blank spaces in which to fill in the name of the person, and the sum required from him. The one addressed to Sir Francis Ottley has been preserved, though somewhat damaged. A similar one exists among the muniments of the Rev. John Walcott of Bitterley Court, co. Salop. The sum required from Sir Francis Ottley is small, owing, doubtless, to the great sacrifices he had already made for his Sovereign. The document bears a receipt on the back from Simon Weston, on behalf of Thomas Edwardes, Esq., High Sheriff of the county, dated May 13, 1644.

CXCVII. A PRIVY SEAL TO THE SAME REQUIRING A LOAN.

CHARLES R.

Trusty and welbeloved we greet you well, Whereas all our Subjects of the Kingdome of England and Dominion of Wales, are both by their Allegiance and the Act of Pacification, bound to resist and suppress all such of our Subjects of Scotland, as have in a hostile manner already entered, or shall hereafter enter into this Kingdome, And by Lawe your Personall Service, Attended in a warlike manner for the resistance of this Invasion, may be required by us, which we

desire to Spare, Chusing rather to invite your Assistance for the Maintenance of our Army in a free and Voluntary expression of your Affections to our Service, and the Safety of this Kingdome. And whereas the Members of both Houses of Parliament Assembled at Oxford, have taken into their consideration the Necessity of Supporting our Army, for the Defence of Us and our People against this Invasion, and for the Preservation of the Religion, Lawes, and Liberties, of this Kingdome, and thereupon have agreed upon the Speedy raiseing of the summe of one hundred Thousand pounds by Loan from particular Persons towards the which themselves have advanced a very considerable proportion, and by their Examples hope that our Well Affected Subjects throughout the Kingdome will in a short time make up the Remainder; Whereby we shall not only be enabled to pay and recruite our Army, but likewise be enabled to put our Army in such a Condition as Our Subjects shall not Suffer by free quarter, or the unruliness of our Soldiers, which is now in present Agitation, and will (we no way doubt, by the Advice of the Members of both Houses Assembled) be speedily effected. We doe towards so good a worke, by the Approbation and Advice of the said Members of both Houses there Assembled, desire you forthwith to lend us the summe of *thirty pounds*[1] or the value thereof in Plate, toucht Plate at five Shillings, and untoucht Plate at four shillings and four pence per ounce; and to pay or deliver the same within seven daies after the Receipt thereof, to the hand of Our highe Sheriffe of that our County, or to such whom he shall appoint to receive the same upon his acqittance for the Receipt thereof, who is forthwith to returne and pay the same at Corpus Christi Colledge in Oxford, to the hands of the Earle of Bath, the Lord Seymour, Mr John Ashburnham, and Mr John Fettiplace, or any of them, who are appointed Treasurers . . . and issuing thereof by the said Members (by whose order only th s . . . sposed) and to give receipts for the same, the which we promise to . . . all enable us, this summe to be advanced with speed. We are . . . . ur Selves to such Persons as your Selfe, of whose abillity and Affection . . . dence giving you this Assurance, that in such further Charges, that t . . . st Defence shall inforce us to require of our good Subjects, Your for . . . . s bursments shall be considered to your best advantage. And so presuming you will not faile to expresse

[1] Filled up in writing.

your affection herein, We bid you farewell. Given at our Court at Oxford, the 14 day of February, in the nineteenth year of our Raigne 1643.

By his Ma^ts^ Com'and
Salop, to
S^r^ Francis Oteley.

By the Advice of the Members of both Houses Assembled at Oxford
[signed] Ed: Littleton, C.
Samp: Eure.

Sir Edward Littleton, Lord Keeper, was the son and heir of Sir Edward Littleton of Henley, in the parish of Bitterley, co. Salop, by Mary, daughter of Edmund Walter of Ludlow, Chief Justice of South Wales. He was born in Shropshire, and baptized at Munslow March 5, 1589-90; became a gentleman commoner of Christ Church, Oxford, 28 Nov., 1606, and took his B.A. Ap. 28, 1609, Entering the Inner Temple he soon became eminent in the profession of the Law, was made Solicitor-General 1634, and knighted at Whitehall the following year. January 27, 1639, he was appointed Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and January 23 following Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, in the place of Lord Finch, "for which place," says Clarendon, "he was excellently fitted: being a man of grave and comely presence, his other parts were over valued; his learning in the Law being his masterpiece." On February 18, 1641, he was created a Peer of England by the title of Lord Littleton, Baron of Munslow, co. Salop. After the King established his Parliament at Oxford, the Lord Keeper remained for some time with the Parliament at Westminster, but in July he followed the King, having first sent the Great Seal. He was now created LL.D., made one of the King's Privy Council, and received his commission of Colonel of a Regiment of Foot. He died August 27, 1645.

A cousin of Sir Edward, Thomas Littleton, parson of "Suckly," and Vicar of Hales Owen, took an opposite side to the Lord Keeper, as appears from the Earl of Denbigh's MSS. Basil, Earl of Denbigh, issued an order dated April 16, 1644, to all commanders, officers,

and soldiers for the service of the Parliament, or under his command, to forbear to molest, disturb, or seize upon the person, goods or chattels of Thomas Littleton, parson of Suckly, and Vicar of Hales Owen, "a laborious painful minister, and well affected to ye Parliament." He was the son of Thomas Littleton of Stoke St. Milborough, uncle of the Lord Keeper.

"Sir Sampson Eure was of the family of Ralph, the 3rd Ld. Eure, who was King's lieutenant in the Principality of Wales in 1608. Sir Francis Eure, brother to the above, married Ellin, elder daughter and co-heir of William Maurice of Clenenny, the son, by Margaret daughter and heir of John Lacon of Porkington, of Sir William Maurice, Knt., of Clenenny. The Eures were thus connected with the neighbourhood of Oswestry. The Barony of Eure became extinct in 1698." (Stanley Leighton, Shrop. Arch. Soc. *Trans.*, vol. iii., p. 139, note).

CXCVIII. RALPH FREEMAN TO THE SAME.

1643-4.

S^r^

The wisest (as those which are soe reputed tell mee) are more curius to find & sease, a Judas att home, then serius to distroy a knowen enimie abroad, and ye only way to shew religion & to gayne honor, which to ye sons of fame are ye noblest spurs, is loyaltie to there prince; a gallant man daires cutt ye thred of a brother, or sease a neybor, yt with a betraying looke impudently gazes in the face of Majestie, should that trator fortune suffer in ye action that gallant brave man fall, hee on the ground lyes both as brave & gallant; nor is more subject to Contempt then are ye holy relicks of a temple which as if they were intier, should have a reverence: for those pretending good-ons, I informed you of att Shrowsbury, whoes companies you soe much desier there, if you will be pleas'd to seale a warrant up in a letter for them all my faculties att once shall doe you service.

I Rest yor moust
ffeb. ye 18^th^ 1643. humble Servant

Pray be pleas'd impart your news. RAPHE FFREMAN.
To ye worshipfull S^r^ ffrancis Otly
present this with my service.

This somewhat ambiguous letter betrays a strong feeling of discontent with the conduct of men whom the writer does not venture to name, though it be in a private letter, and thereby reflects the tone of mind too prevalent at this time among the King's loyal subjects.

Prince Rupert arrived in Shrewsbury February 18,[1] and at once set himself with his usual energy to suppress the discontent of the garrison. He found an angry populace, an unpaid army, and a divided command; but the lack of money was the most serious difficulty to contend with. From this had arisen free quarter to the men, not unacceptable to them, but highly vexatious to the better class of officers, and tenfold more so to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

One of his first acts was to instruct his Commissary General, Sir William Bellenden, to provide large stores of provision, and abolish free quarter.[2] This is the report of Sir William :—

May it Please Your Highness.

By Sir John Mennes letter, your Highness will understand the success of my Lord Byron's proceedings and ours since your Highness parted, and how much our condition is bettered. Monday last we discharged free quarters, not without some growling amongst the soldiers; and whereas your Highness did appoint 3s. worth of provisions to be given each souldier a week, I have only caused issue so much as comes to 1^{s} 10^{d}, which I did by the advice of some of the officers, it being sufficient with the shilling in money that

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[1] Mayor's accounts, 19th February :—

A note of Wyne, Cakes and Sugar bestowed upon Prince Rupert his highness.

2 quarts of Sacke, one q^{t} clarett 1 q^{t} white wyne at,	xx^{s}
One Sugar loffe 10^{li} 4	xx^{s}
3 doss. of bisketts	vj^{s}
3 doss. of ffyne cakes	vj^{s}
	lij^{s}

pd. w^{ch} was bestowed on Prynce Rupert his Trumpeters xx^{s}

[2] This letter appears to exonerate Prince Rupert from the charge of sanctioning free quarter. See Owen and Blakeway, i., p. 444.

your Highness has appointed for them: more would have caused a waste. Neither could we, without danger of mutiny, hereafter have lessened the proportion once given them; this I hope your Highness will approve of. There comes in great store of provisions, so that we do promise your Highness a full magazine of corn at your return. I cannot as yet give your Highness any account of the conclusion your commissioners have made in North Wales till Sir Thomas Hanmer and Mr. Wayett return, which will be about the middle of the next week.

Your Highness's humble servant

Salop, March 30, 1644. W. BELLENDEN.

CXCIX. AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GARRISON AND THE SHREWSBURY CORPORATION.

1643-4.

A True Copy of the Agreement and Order made betwixt the Governour and Mayor of Shrewsbury the 19th day of February 1643.

It is this day Agreed betwixt the Governour and his Officers, subscribed on his part, and Mr Mayor, The Town Clerk, Aldermen and others on his part Subscribed, that the Governour should have for his Service done to that day by himself and Officers one full Months full pay According to a list then Shewed, with an Establishment of the pay due to every Officer, which came to the value of four Hundred and two pounds, and after that Day the Governour to have his full pay after the rate of £20 a Week and all the rest of his Officers in the said list named their half pay constantly paid them afterwards.

The GOVERNOUR.[1] Capt. OTTLEY.[3]
Major BUTLER.[2] Capt. OWEN.[4]

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[1] Sir Francis Ottley.

[2] An officer of the garrison appointed by Sir Francis Ottley, part of whose duty it was to inspect the repairs of the fortifications. From the Mayor's accounts we learn that he superintended the construction of a sentinel house in Frankwell during the months of March and April of this year, which Mr. Francis Sandford had previously been engaged upon.

[3] Already mentioned (Letter CIII.) as the brother of the Governor. He was the second son of Thomas Ottley, Esq., by his wife Catharine, daughter of John Mackworth of Betton Strange; born 2nd March, 1602, now 22 years of age.

[4] Probably Capt. Thomas Owen of Whitley, near Shrewsbury, taken prisoner at the capture of the town, then a Lieut.-Colonel.

Capt. NEEDHAM.[1]
Advocate TREWIS.[2]
The MAYOR.[3]
The TOWN CLERK.[4]
Mr GIBBONS, Alderman.[5]
Mr FOSTER, Alderman.[6]
Mr JOHN HARDING.[7]
Mr LEWIS DAVIS.[8]

It will be observed that this agreement is dated the day after the arrival of Prince Rupert. But the document being signed by the Mayor and his friends was not of much value, for the town had been already exhausted, and even Rupert could not "get blood out of a stone."

Sir William Herbert, K.B., created Baron Powis of Powis Castle, co. Montgomery (here called Red Castle, from the colour of its walls, a name it had long borne, though there was another of the same name in Shropshire, once the residence of the Audleys), April 2nd, 1629. He died March 7th, 1655, aged 83. (G.M.) The allusion to certain good news in Lord Powis's short letter cannot now be traced, though it is not unlikely that it was the appointment of Prince Rupert as President of Wales, which took place on the 5th of February, and must have been highly gratifying to the owner of large estates in the Principality. It is probable that the Prince was a guest at Powis Castle in the following August, for we learn from the *Weekly Account* that the Prince's own regiment of horse was

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[1] A member of the family of that name seated at Shavington, in this county, and probably identical with Capt. John Needham, who was killed while on guard with five men at the capture of Shrewsbury.

[2] Advocate Trewis, or Treves, appears also as Mr. Treves, being present at a sitting of the Commissioners of Prince Rupert Nov. 1 of this year.

[3] Robert Betton, Junior, Esq., son of Alderman Robert Betton, Mayor in 1639-40, by Margaret Edwards.

[4] Thomas Owen of Dinthill, near Shrewsbury, Esq. (See XXV. and CXIV.)

[5] See Letter XXIV., note.

[6] Robert Foster, Alderman.

[7] John Harding, an Assistant in the Charter granted by Charles I. to the town.

[8] Also an Assistant in the same Charter.

quartered at Welshpool, and was surprised by Middleton and Mytton in a night attack, nearly a hundred of them captured, including a Captain, a Cornet, and a Quartermaster, and 200 horses. A month later Middleton marched from Montgomery Castle to Welshpool, and on the 3rd of October took Red Castle, seized Lord Powis, "the greatest blasphemer in the world," according to the Roundhead reporter, "his brother, and a seminary priest, whom they at Oxford will tell you, is employed to settle the Protestant religion." Also they took forty horses, 200 arms, and about fifty prisoners, one hundred of them escaping out of the Castle in the dark.[1] Sir Thomas Middleton sent Lord Powis to the garrison of Wem, afterwards to Stafford, and finally on parole to London, where he resided at his lodgings in the Strand. The *Sequestration Papers* mention as paid in June, 1645, a Fine of £1,192, of which the county of Montgomery paid £818 9s., the balance of £373 11s. being still due at that date. Sir Percy Herbert was fined £1,007. Lord Powis in his old age, infirm and weak, had, in August, 1645, by Resolution of Parliament, £4 a week allowed him for his maintenance in prison out of his estate, by the Committee of Sequestration. The venerable nobleman lingered until 1655, when, as above stated, he died at the advanced age of 83.[2]

CC. LORD POWIS TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1643-4?

SYR,

I receaved your letter of the 17 of this Month full of very good newes and for itt can send you nothing in retribution but thanks, and give you assurance that I am, and ever will bee Your most faythfull
Red Castle this frend, and humble servant
20 of February. POWYS.

For his most worthy
frend Syr Frauncis Oteley
at Shrowsbury, these.

[1] *The Kingdom's Weekly Intelligencer.*
[2] Montgomery Collections, 1881, p. 307.

John Talbot, 10th Earl of Shrewsbury (son of John Talbot, Esq., by Eleanor, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Baskerville, Knt., of Brinsop, in Herefordshire), resided at Longford, near Newport, Shropshire. He married Mary, daughter of Sir Francis Fortescue, K.B., of Salden Hill. Symonds in his *Diary* informs us that Longford House was made a garrison by "the rebells" in 1644, who held it till Prince Rupert took it, at the same time he took Tong Castle. "Colonel Young is Governor (May, 1645). Young's estate £300 per annum, his wife a clothier's daughter." The Earl was declared a Recusant, and all his property was seized by the Parliament. He died Feb. 8, 1653-4.

CCI. THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY TO THE SAME.

1643-4?

S^r^

This gentleman, Mr Witaker, is my very good frend, and one thatt I have byn very much beeholdinge unto, for the car hee had of my son's health; hee is dessigneinge to spend some tyme att Shreusbury and I can assure you hee is a very stonch man; whatt curtesie you shall please to afford him shall be esteemed as done to your

very assured lovinge frend

Longford 21. ffe. SHREWSBURY.

To my very worthy frend
S^r^ ffrancis Oateley, Knt.
Governer of Shrewsbury
give thys.

CCII. OWEN GRIFFITHS TO THE SAME.

1643-4.

NOBLE SIR

Yesternight, being with the Governor of Worcester, 48 prisoners of Waller's[1] Company (all Horsemen) were brought here, taken at Pershore just in my way to Oxford, which hath

[1] Probably engaged in a foraging expedition sent out from Gloucester, now in the hands of the Parliament, which town was in great distress, and an effort was made about this time to victual it, without success. Gard. i., p. 320.

Stayed & stopt me a little of my Journey, but now believing the coast is clear I go on; Waller himself with one Man by 3 in the Morning Yesterday called for a Farrier at Pershore, & finding the Town naked, presently, his Forces a 1000 or thereabouts, came in and Pillaged, and so ran away, but the Country rose up and took these Prisoners, whereof 2 are quartermasters, besides some Captains; it is believed Waller, designing to stop in Gloucester, the Prince being near, made for Warwick Castle or Coventry, I pray God it be not to join with Brereton, or some Other, in those parts upon the edge of Cheshire, to do some mischief Elsewhere. I am

Woster 21: Feb: Your True Servant
1643. To the R: Wo^ple S^r Francis Ow. GRIFFITHS.
Oateley Knight, the Noble
Governor of Sallop p'sent with all due Respects
& speed.

CCIII. INFORMATION LAID BY WM. CHILD AGAINST FR. BURNE AND WIFE.

1643-4.

The Informacon of William Child of Aston Botterell in the County of Salop, glover (now set forth a dragooner for Aston Botterell) against ffraunce Burne & his wife, taken before the Bayliffs of Bridgnorth the 23^th of this instant ffebruary 1643

Saith—That he this Informer being p'duced for the Townshipp of Botterell Aston to show himself before his ma^ts Justics of peace imployed for raysing Dragoneers for p'te of the said County for his Ma^ts service upon Munday the 13^th day of this month came into the house of the said ffraunce Burne to drinke, the said ffraunce Burne then desired this Informer to speake privately w^th him conc'ininge his imployment as to be instructed what he went aboute, whether he went upon a good cause or not; but this Informer refused soe to doe; then the said ffraunce Burne fell upon this Informer in this manner, doe you know what you goe aboute? doe you goe upon your own will or are you enforced to goe? or to that effect; to which this informer replyed, he was not enforced; then the said Burne wished this Informer to be advised what he did, & to be instructed; and he replyed, he very well knew what he went aboute, & wold not be instructed by him. Then the said Burne replyed againe, that he loved this Informer so well, whereas he had heretofore killed

Calves at Botterells Aston, he shold kill no more there, or to that effect; and thereupon both the said ffraunces Burne & his wife, did vouch severall places of Scripture to disswade this Informer's intencon, and this Informer th^rupon did instance unto them one place in Scripture to this effect, viz^t, As Solomon saith A good man giveth an Inheritance to his Children, and the riches of the wicked are laid up for the just; and thereupon this Informer told the said Burne he was a Round head, in the p'sence of one Thomas Rea, & one Patchet a tanner in Bridgnorth & other p'swasions they both used to desswade this Informer not to undertake the said service; and further saith not.

Convenit cum originali
Ex^r p. Sc X^r Totti

According to an interesting MS. in the collection of the Rev. John Webb, Apley Castle, to which our next paper relates, was garrisoned some time in 1643, probably late in that year, by Lord Capel, who appointed Lieut. Honer Governor of it, but the plundering and exactions of Honer annoyed the neighbourhood so much that Mr. Hanmer, who had married the widow of the late owner, Mr. Francis Charlton, and lived with her in the Castle, went to Shrewsbury to lay a complaint against him. So far from getting any redress, he was arrested and committed on the charge of High Treason. When Prince Rupert came to Shrewsbury in the beginning of 1644 he referred the subject to the Commissary General, Sir William Bellenden, who having heard the case of Hanmer and Honer made his report to the Prince, which was to this effect:—That Mr. Hanmer must consider whether he will man and maintain Apley Castle at his own charge, or leave it to another; or have it blown up. If he shall choose to keep it himself, and should hereafter lose it to the rebel enemy, that then the damage that shall accrue to the house in the recovery thereof, shall be refunded out of the estate. This was dated March 9th, 1643-4. The declaration he made was this:—"I Thomas Hanmer, do hereby declare that with his Highnesse's good leave and approbation, I will man, defend, and maintayne

my house, or Castle of Appley against the rebel enemy, under the authority of this pretended Parliament at Westminster, at my own proper charges in defence of his Majesty's just cause.—Thomas Hanmer." "Let this be done accordingly, signed Rupert." "Testor Will. Leven, Ad. General, Salop, March 14th, 1643-4."[1]

A few days after he armed his servants and some of his tenants in accordance with his declaration. The house was taken by the Parliament troops, who plundered it to the amount of £1,500, and he was again made prisoner. Ten days afterwards it was recaptured for the King by Sir William Vaughan and Sir Robert Ellis, and the conditions of surrender will be found below. The Royalists sequestered the estate, seized upon the remainder of the property, estimated at £3,000 or £4,000, dismantled the house, and carried away the lead to cover the Castle of Shrewsbury.

The Castle to which the above account relates was built by Mr. Hanmer at a cost of £6,000, and stood less than two hundred yards from the present mansion of Sir Thomas Meyrick, Bart.; when it ceased to be occupied, the masonry being of a substantial character, the building was utilised for stabling and other purposes. The moat which protected it has been filled up, except a small part which now forms a fishpond. There is a drawing of the old house in Mrs. Stackhouse Acton's *Garrisons of Shropshire.*

CCIV. ARTICLES AGREED UPON FOR THE SURRENDER OF APLEY CASTLE.

1643-4.

March 24th 1643.

Articles agreed upon betweene Coll Ellis & Sr Wm Vaughan Knt for his mty, wth Capt Wm Brayne & Leiftennt Rich: Tayler & the rest of the officers in Garrisson in Apley Castle.

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[1] Memo. C. W. in Herefordshire ii., p. 50.

1 That the Comanders at Apley havinge yielded themselves & their souldiers prisoners it is agreed unto by Coll. Ellis & S^r^ W^m^ Vaughan that only ten of such as wee shall choose, shall remayne prisoners as Hostages till theire others be to the equall qualitie & number of those in Apley both officers & souldiers released that are imprisoned having taken Arms by his mat'ys comand either at Wem or any other Garrison.

2 It is agreed by both sides that no souldiers that have served in Ireland shalbe taken for any of the ten that are to remayne prisoners, but may without breach of Articles remayne in S^r^ W^m^ Vaughan his Regim't, if they will not returne to Weme.

3 The house is to be imediately surrendered and the souldiers to march away to Weme without molestacon of his ma^tys^ forces, leavinge theire Armes & amunition, they marchinge away with theire Clothes untouched.

Cap Brayne for Captayn Southwood
L. Taylor for L. Bayly and the like for the rest.

signed by
WM VAUGHAN
ROBT ELLICE.

S^r^ I have sent you a copy of the articles agreed upon at the delivery up of Appley: let me intreat you that for the honour of souldery they may be p'formed; we have p'formed them on our pt, let me intreat the like from you, and you thereby shall bind mee to bee

Yo^r^ Servant
THOMAS HUNT.

Sir William Vaughan came into Shropshire in command of an Irish regiment early in 1644, and one of his first recorded services was taking part with Colonel Ellice in this siege and capture of Apley Castle. In September following (28) he was appointed Governor of Shrawardine Castle, the seat of Henry Bromley, Esq., where he earned for himself the cognomen of "The Devil of Shrawardine," a name not undeserved, for he pulled down the Church and chancel, the parsonage house and out-buildings, on the plea of military necessity. From here also he raided the surrounding country with his Irish soldiers, plundering the houses of friends and

foes.[1] It was on one of these raids that Colonel Mytton, having received private intelligence, surprised and took him prisoner with twelve lieutenants, and other officers. His captor conducted him to the Castle, where he undertook to negociate its surrender with those he had left in charge, but Sir William Vaughan was no sooner on the safe side the drawbridge than he drew it up and left the Roundhead Colonel to do his worst. The latter thought he had captured a gentleman—he found he had let slip a knave; but he retained his twelve lieutenants and other prisoners. Sir William Vaughan is often heard of during the war. He was present at the attempt to regain Montgomery Castle in September, 1644. Trevor, in writing to the Marquis of Ormond, says:—"Sir William Vaughan was the occasion of fighting the enemy in that place; but as my Lord Byron tells me, contributed not much to the action." (Cart's Coll. Orig. Lett., i., p. 64.) In July, 1645, when the Parliamentary troops were besieging High Ercall house for the second time he, with what strength he could obtain from surrounding garrisons, marched there to relieve it, which he succeeded in doing effectually. *Mercurius Belgicus* states that "he behaved himself so gallantly that he totally routed the besiegers, killed a hundred on the place, and took 400 prisoners with all their baggage." When the King came into Shropshire, shortly after the battle of Naseby, Sir Marmaduke Langdale and Sir William Vaughan, with 300 men, formed the royal escort. At this time he appears to have held the rank of General of the Horse in Salop, Worcester, and Stafford, conferred on him by the King. According to Symonds the King was in Ludlow August 7th (1645), and Sir Marmaduke Langdale and Sir William Vaughan again formed his escort. When Chester was besieged by the Parliamentary troops under Brereton in November, Vaughan was in command of a force of 1,700 horse and

[1] Gough's *History of Middle*, p. 40.

1,000 foot at Denbigh, made up largely of Irish, with a design to raise the siege, but Brereton was able to tell off a select force of 1,400 horse and 1,000 foot under Colonel Jones, with which Colonel Mytton with some auxiliaries co-operated, and completely routed Vaughan, driving him to seek shelter under the Castle, where he rallied his men; which he had no sooner done than Mytton again put him to flight, and chased him eight miles on the road to Conway, inflicting on his troops severe punishment. It was estimated that above a hundred of his men were slain, and about four hundred were taken prisoners, with "divers men of quality."[1] At the end of the war Vaughan returned to Ireland, where at the fatal battle of Rathmines on July, 25, 1649, serving as Commissary General of Horse, he fell in the first charge, his death contributing much to the calamity of the day.[2]

The Hon. Francis Newport of High Ercall, of whom some particulars have been already given (note to Letter VII.), who comes before us in the next letter, suffered so much after being taken prisoner at Oswestry in June of this year, that a short narrative gathered from the MSS. of Lord Denbigh should not be omitted. He was first taken to Wem, where the Parliamentary Committee of Shropshire wrote to Lord Denbigh expressing their opinion that he should be removed elsewhere, "in regard to an especial respect this place bears unto my Lord Newport and his friends;" but it would appear that Lord Denbigh had given Mr. Newport an assurance that he should not be removed till it was seen whether some exchange could be found for him. He wrote to remind his Lordship of this; and in the meantime an important Parliamentary officer, Lieut.-Colonel Pudsey, being a prisoner at Shrewsbury, wrote to Lord Denbigh (11 July), stating that the Governor of that town would accept no

[1] *True Informer*, No. 51.
[2] Clarendon *Hist. Reb.*, vol. viii., p. 98.

exchange for him except Mr. Newport. So far as his Lordship was concerned he agreed to the exchange, but the Committee were of another mind, and wrote to his Lordship (13th) deprecating the enlargement of Mr. Newport, "he being an exceedingly potent man in the county, and very active in raising men and money for the King's cause," and request he will admit of no exchange, but send him to the Parliament to be dealt with, "he being a Parliament man (*i.e.*, a Member of the House), and so active against the Parliament from the beginning." The Committee had their own way, and he was removed to Stafford. From here he writes (27th) again to Lord Denbigh, complaining that contrary to his Lordship's orders Sir Gerard Eyton, Major Manley, and himself are to be sent to Eccleshall Castle, "where is no accommodation in any respect fit for a gentleman," and requests that he may be retained at Stafford, or sent up immediately to London. The all-powerful Committee, however, disregard the comfort of the prisoners and the wishes of Lord Denbigh, and to Eccleshall they were sent. The three prisoners write again to Lord Denbigh, from whom alone they anticipate any consideration, in a joint letter, complaining of their sufferings at Eccleshall, aggravated by all the circumstances "that tyranny and baseness can be guilty of." "Our accommodation is so untoward at present that we have scarce philosophy enough to undergoe it; but that doth not so much beget this address as the noble sense we are assured yo'r lordship is swayed by to any gentleman's misfortune, which we throw ourselves upon as men that would not owe a favour of that nature to any other than yo'r lordship." In a postscript Newport asks Lord Denbigh, if he must be sent to London, that he may not be sent to the Tower, or to Peter-house, but may be committed to some private house on his own parole, or any other engagement.

Immediately afterwards the Commons passed a vote that Sir Thomas Middleton, since relieving Oswestry,

and taking Mr. Newport prisoner, is to have all the profit of Lord Newport's and his sons' lands, during the war, for the maintenance of his soldiers.

CCV. FRANCIS NEWPORT TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1643-4.

Sir,

I am inform'd that some Troopers have brought a Billet from you for 3 horses in my uncle sir Ri. Leveson's stable: now, Sir, I am to let you know that my Father hath procur'd a Protection from my L^d^ Capell, both for his owne houses and stables and alsoe for my uncle Leveson's, and there is likewise a particular ticked [*ticket*] procured from Captaine Jenninges for the securinge of this Stable for my Uncle's use, which I can assure you to bee very true, though the man that had it delivered to him was soe foolish not to leave it there. My desire to you is, Sir, in my Uncle's behalfe (who you well know deserves not to be prejudic'd by any of the King's servants) that you would give your assistance for the securinge of the Stable and the Haye, and to withdraw the Billett now granted, and you will much favour my Uncle and mee,

Y^r^ humble Servant,

High Ercall, March 30. Fr. Newport.

To my much honord Kinsman
Sir Francis Oatley, K^t^
Governo' of Shrewsbury, these.

[Printed in Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*.]

In March Sir Francis Ottley visited Oxford to pay his homage to the King, when he doubtless took the opportunity of explaining his position in regard to his office of Governor of Shrewsbury, and defending himself against the insinuations of incapacity made against him. Mennes having Prince Rupert's ear, had done all he could to prejudice his case in the Prince's mind. But Charles owed much to the example of fidelity and self-sacrifice set by Sir Francis in Shropshire, which he had not been backward to recognise and acknowledge. The King could satisfy the Prince in no other way than by at length removing him in favour of the Prince's own nominee, and could only do

justice to Sir Francis by conferring upon him some new honour that would be a fair compensation for the loss of his governorship.

Sir Francis returned to Shrewsbury on the 29th of March, and was received by the Mayor and Aldermen in the customary manner.

A note for Wyne Cakes and Sugar bestowed upon S Fr: Oateley at his return from Oxford.

1 g^{n} of Sacke at 20^{d}	vij^{s} viij^{d}
1 Dossen of fyne cakes	ij^{s}
1 li^{i} of Sugar	ij^{s}
	xi^{s} viij

CCVI. MAJOR GOULDEGAY TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1644.

NOBLE S^{r}

I formerly sent unto you by a Drum of Yours (being thereunto invited by the recipt of a former courtesey from you) for the exchange of two of my Souldiers now Prisoners with you (Viz.) John Maxee and Thomas Robinson, but being doubtfull whether you received it or no, Causeth me to be further troublesome unto you, and to desire that you would so much the more engage me to you as to send me these two Men hither with a Paroll, and I do hereby promise you by the word of a Gentleman imediately upon their coming hither to enlarge 2 of your's here of like Quality, and shall remain

Wem this 30th of April 1644.

Yo^{r} Servant
Major W^{m} GOULDEGAY

To S^{r} Francis Oteley
Governor of Shrewsbury
These p'sent.

Major Gouldegay distinguished himself in the battle of Nantwich January 28th, 1643, between Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Aston, by dismounting his dragoons, and turning his horses upon the enemy, throwing them into the direst confusion, and thus contributed to the defeat of the Royalists. It was on this

occasion the Roundhead Press accused Sir Vincent Corbet of crawling away on all fours lest he should be discerned, and then ran on foot bareheaded to Over, six miles—probably a flight of imagination on the part of "Our Own Correspondent," rather than of the worthy Baronet, though the rout of the Royalists was complete.

Everyone has read the highly interesting letters written to her son Edward by Lady Brilliana Harley from Brampton Bryan Castle, before, and during, the siege of that place in 1643. The letters were printed by the Camden Society in 1854, from the MSS. in possession of her descendant, the Lady Frances Vernon Harcourt, which had been for many years neglected at Eywood, the seat of the Harley's in Herefordshire. Lady Brilliana—her husband, Sir Robert Harley, a determined and active Parliamentarian, being detained by his duties in London—held Brampton Bryan with conspicuous courage till her death, which took place soon after the first siege in October, 1643. Dr. Nathaniel Wright of Hereford, her physician, one of her truest friends, held the castle in the second siege, but surrendered it, at mercy only, to Sir Michael Woodhouse, Governor of Ludlow, on the 17th April, 1644, after a resistance of three weeks, when there were taken 67 men, 100 arms, two barrels of powder, and a whole year's provisions. Three of Sir Robert Harley's youngest children were among the prisoners.

Frequent mention is made in Lady Harley's letters of a Mr. Phillips of Ledbury, who was very kind to her in the midst of all her troubles, and after receiving information from a messenger she had sent to Hereford to observe the conduct of her enemies, she writes to her son, "that all at Heariford cried out against your father, and not one said anything for him, but one man, Mr. Phillips of Ledbury said, when he heard them speak so against your father, 'Well,' said he, 'tho Sir Robert Harley be low here, yet he is above, where he is,'" alluding to the high estimation in which he

was held in London. Possibly the William Phillips of the following letter was of this family. Lokere, from whom Phillips had received the letters, is several times mentioned as Looker or Loocker by Lady Harley, he being the medium through whom she communicated with her son Edward. She writes (April 10, 1640), "I have sent you by Loocker some violet cakes;" and again (May, 1643), "I received your letter very well, which came by Looker." What the correspondence was found on Phillips we shall never know, but it could have been of little importance at this time, for Lady Harley was dead, and Brampton Bryan Castle had been dismantled by the Royalist forces.

The number of these secret messengers must have been great, as they were largely employed by both sides during the war, and such a hazardous business doubtless called forth much ingenuity to escape detection. Our local historian, Gough, gives a good account of one of these men :—

This Richard Clarke was the son of Richard Clarke, of Middle Wood. Hee was naturally ingenious. Hee had a smooth way of flattering discourse, and was a perfect master in the art of dissembling. Hee was listed for a soldier on the Parliament side in Wem, whilst hee was yett but a mere boy. There was nothing of manhood or valor in him, and yet hee was serviceable to the officers of that Garrison by carrying of letters to theire friends and correspondents that were in Garrisons of the adverse party. Hee had an old ragged coate on purpose which he would putt on, and goe as a beggar boy. Hee carryed a short stick, such as boys call a dog staffe. There was a hole boared in the end of it, and there the letters were putt, and a pegg after them, and that end hee put in the dyrt. If hee mett with soldiers, hee would throw his sticke att birds, soe that it might goe over the hedge, and then goe over to fetch it. When he came to the Garrison, he would begg from doore to doore, and consort himselfe with beggars untill hee came to the place he was to deliver his letter. When a maid came to the door, hee would disyre to speak with the Master, from a friend. When the Master came hee would give him his sticke, and goe to cleane the stable untill the master brought his stick and then returne begging as beefore. (*History of Middle*, p. 106, Shrewsbury edition.)

CCVII. THOMAS EDWARDES, HIGH SHERIFF, TO THE SAME.

1644.

GOOD BROTHER,

This evening was brought before mee one William Philips of Lentwardine who being tipling in this Towne & discovered to have the letters inclosed. I examined him whence hee had these letters & he saith they came from the Lady Harley & were delivered him by a tenant of hers one Lokere that lyves in Lentwardyne, hee would not confess any more, but hee hath byn often noted to passe this Towne as a comon Intelligencer from that Castle into these parts. Hee would fayne have intreated mee to open these letters, but seeing to who they are directed, I would not adventure of my selfe to doe it, but have sent him & the letters unto you. Not doubting of your Vigilancy to advise with Sir Rch: Lee, Sir Jo: Weld, or others, what to doe with them, and also knowing your power to bee farre above myne in this *Case* & to your wisdome I send him and them, being

Your brother assured to serve you

Stretton, May 10. 1644. THO: EDWARDES.

To the right wor.ll
Sir Ffrancis Ottley, Knt.
Governour of the Towne of Shrewsbury these present.

(Seal)

We shall now have our attention occupied for a moment with the financial business between the Governor of Shrewsbury and the Corporation, which appears to have been in a most unsatisfactory condition, and which Prince Rupert was determined to bring to a settlement. But Corporate bodies clothed with certain legal rights and privileges conferred upon them by a succession of Royal Charters extending over many centuries were, in those days, not easily intimidated even by a Prince of royal blood. It is a fortunate circumstance that amongst the Ottley Papers there is a transcript taken, at some period unknown, from the books of the Corporation (the books not now to be

found), of all the more important resolutions bearing on the business. Several extracts have already been given (following Letter LXVII.) of what was done by the Corporation up to the beginning of 1643; a continuation of them from that period to the present will convey a sufficiently clear idea without much comment. The first relates to the latter part of 1643; the month is not named.

The Corporation remonstrate to an order from Lord Capel, commanding the Governor, Mayor, and Aldermen, to raise money for the Pay of his Lordship's Troops, quartered in the Town.

An Assessment of £1000 ordered for Defences of the Town.

The Governour demanded £380, for a Month's Pay, for himself and Officers, which the Corporation Scruple the Payment of.

1644.

The Corporation remonstrate to an Order from Prince Rupert's Commissioners to pay £100, for work at the Fortifications.

They disown a pretended Agreement said to be made between Sir Francis Ottley and Them, for Payment of two, Sums to him, the one of £775, and the other of £402 for the pay of him and his Officers: and likewise called on him to produce his Patent; for as the Inhabitants of the Town were all Soldiers, or maintained Soldiers under them, (if they did not do their Duty in their own Persons) they conceive Soldiers should not Contribute to Maintain their Superior Officers.

A copy of the agreement for the £402 has been given, No. CXCIX., dated 19 February.

It is now May, and no steps have been taken by the Corporation to pay the Governor's claim. This claim is fully set forth in the next paper.

CCVIII. PAYMENTS DUE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1644.

A breife note of the Agreement betwixt Sir Francis Ottley Governor of Shrewsbury and Mr Mayor of the said Town and also what hath been received by the Governour from the Town,

since the time he first took the employment of a Soldier upon him for the defence of the said Town.

Received at Several Times as by note[1] may appear.	326	9	0
Upon the ninth of February Last 1643 uppon an Agreement betwixt the Governor and Mayor, the Governour did Agree, and was Content to Accept, of one Month's pay for himself and all his Officers, for all their former Servis done to that Day, being then a year and half, which Month's pay came to	402	0	0
Whereof received but only the Sum of	124	9	0
So there is due in Arrears of that month	277	11	0
It was likewise Agreed the 19th of February that after that Day the Governour should receive his demand, being £20 a Week, and all his Officers their half pay.			
Which, to this present day being the 10th of May, is 11 Weeks which comes to, for the Governour at £20 a Week, the sum of	220	0	0
And all the Officers half pay for the said 11 Weeks,	555	10	0
Due in all upon this Agreement betwixt the Governour and the Mayor	1053	1	0

The Mayor is forthwith to Satisfie Sir Francis Ottley and his Officers According to their Agreement, Salop May 1644.

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[1] The Particulars of what hath been received from the Town, since the first Imployment by the Govenor.

The 25 of October 1642	30	0	0
The 13 of January 1642	10	0	0
The 28 of January 1642	10	0	0
The 20 of May 1643	60	0	0
The 24 of June 1643	30	0	0
At Several times After	22	0	0
The 16 of February 1642	50	0	0
The 24 of February 1643	40	0	0
The 27 of February 1643	5	0	0
The 8 of March 1643	20	0	0
The 9 of March 1643	5	0	0
The 16 of March 1643	4	9	0
	326	9	0

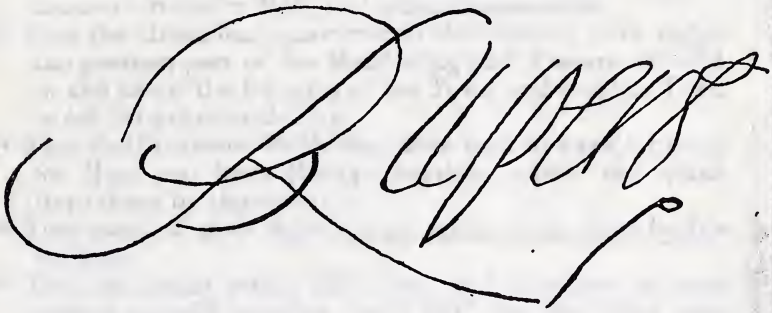
CCIX. PRINCE RUPERT'S ORDER THAT THE GOVERNOR BE PAID.

1644.

1. That the Commissioners may hear and Examyne all S[r] Ffrancis Ottley's undertakings for the quartering of horse and foote within the Towne and Liberties of Shrewsbury, and allsoe his bills of other Engagements.
2. That a Settled course may be taken hereafter for the payment of S[r] ffrancis Ottley, his Officers and 800 Souldiers,

Shrowesbury this 16[th] of May 1644.

It is my pleasure that this Paper bee delivered to the Commissary Generall, to y[e] Commissioners & that they doe take a speedie Course for S[r] Francis Ottley's Satisfaction.



What the "settled course" the Commissioners were to take is left us to conjecture; there is nothing to show that the Corporation paid the whole of the claim; and on the 1st November the Commissioners again sat to consider the subject, and finally determined to confiscate the rents arising from the Shropshire estates of the "recusant" Earl of Bridgwater for the purpose.

Further extracts from the books of the Corporation will present the case for the town, as against the Commissioners, who claimed heavier contributions than the inhabitants could afford.

A Committee was appointed to draw up a statement to lay before the Governor the financial position of the Corporation.

A Committee appointed to acquaint the Governor of the Poor Estate of the Town, and that they are not able to provide

and Maintain a Troop of Horse within the Town for the Reasons following, viz.

1st When the Town was ordered by Prince Rupert's Commissioner to pay in Contribution Money they were promised that no free quarter should be put upon them.

2nd Consider the Charge of Fortifications, buying of 8 Pieces of Ordnance, making of Gunpowder, providing of Coals and Candles for the Several Guards, and the payment of Subscription Money, and Privy Seals.

3rd That the whole Revenue of the Town will not pay the Coals and Candles for the Centrys.

4th Consider the Stopping and Decay of Trading, especially that from Wales, in Cottons, Cheese, and Cattle, and from hence to Wales in Malt, and other Commodities.

5th That the Horse here quartered in the summer have Eaten the greatest part of the Meadowing and Pasture Ground in and about the Suburbs of the Town, and that the Town is not furnished with Hay.

6th That the Provision which they were used to have formerly for Hay, was from Montgomeryshire, which was taken from them by the enemy.

7th That most of their horses were stolen from them by the Soldiers.

8th That the Lands within the Town and Liberties are over valued and will not give above half the Rent they were formerly set at.

9th That the Town was indebted above £800 and paid use for the greatest Part of it. Whereof the greatest part had been incurred since his Majesty came there.

10th That notwithstanding all these Losses and Charges the Town was contented to pay an equal proportion with the County for raising so many Horses as they shall think fitt.[1]

This representation probably had some effect in moderating the amount next assessed; and the assessment was at once complied with.

Ordered that the Assessment for £200 be forthwith levied upon the Abler sort of People, according to the Order of Prince Rupert's Commissioners, for payment of the Officers of this Garrison.

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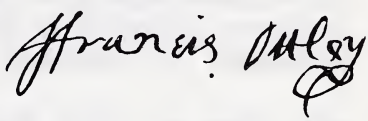
[1] These ten resolutions are printed in Owen and Blakeway's *History*, but differ somewhat in the wording, which I cannot account for.

CCX. SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY TO LIEUTENANT RICHARD JONES.

1644.

Whereas Thomas Benyon one of yo'r Company in my Regim't is ymployed as a Smyth in the Towne workes for the Sharpininge of picks and other Tooles, and by consequence cannot neglect the said ymploym't. Therefore you are hereby authorized to give him Libertie to departe from his guard att fower of the Clocke in the morninge the sev'all tymes it shall fall to his turne to watch; whereby he may followe his daylie Service therein. And this shalbe his discharge and warrant for you in that behalfe. Salop the xxjth day of May 1644.



This last paper, although one of no moment, is useful as showing that the Governor had not yet ceased to hold office, the exact date of his surrender of which has never been really ascertained. Blakeway in his *Sheriffs of Shropshire* states that "in the middle of 1644 he was glad to relinquish his post, and accept the office of Sheriff for the ensuing year; whereas in the *History of Shrewsbury* we are told that it is certain his government continued from February, 1642-3, to November or December, 1644. The first date here given is nearest the truth, but could we fix the date of his successor we should be still nearer the mark.

In reference to his successor the authors of the *History of Shrewsbury* write as follows:—"Richard Baxter, the celebrated non-conformist, relates in his Life, that in the summer of 1643, Sir Fulke Hunkes, the brother of his Step-mother, was made Governor by the King, 'But at last, the gentry of the county and he agreed not; he being too much a soldier, and too civil for many of them, and they procured him to be removed; and Sir Richard Ottley first, and after Sir Michael Ernley, made Governor. Sir Fulke was confident when he went, that their drunkeness and carelessness would shortly lose the town.' Here are

various mistakes. The historical relations of Baxter are as little to be depended upon as those of Burnet. Not from any intentional falsification in either of those eminent persons; but because both of them, writing from recollection, many years after the facts occurred which they propose to record, and not distrusting their memories, took no pains to ascertain the truth of what they deliver. The mistake of Sir Francis's Christian name is trivial, compared with the misstatement of the date of his government, which, it is certain, continued from February, 1642-3, to November or December, 1644."

I have given this paragraph entire to enable the reader to judge the value of the criticisms I have to offer. That Baxter was wrong in the date when Sir Francis was Governor, and his Christian name, cannot be questioned; but that he was wrong in his statement that Huncks was appointed to succeed Sir Francis in the office, cannot be maintained, as the following extracts from contemporary writers will show. *Mercurius Civicus* records that "by letters out of Cheshire, dated the 7th of this instant, August, it is advertised that Col. Mytton lately faced Shrewsbury with his horse, and with another party kept Montford Bridge towards the Welsh gate, within three miles of Shrewsbury, and wheeled about the town with another party through Crow-Meole and Brace-Meole, to Atcham Bridge, where Col. Hunke, the Governor of Shrewsbury lies, and drove away many of his horses, calves, and sheep, and did much hinder Shrewsbury fair, which was that day."[1] In a letter from John Williams, Archbishop of York, to the Marquis of Ormond, 20 August, 1644, occurs the following passage:—"The Prince [Rupert] is recruiting amain, and will get up arms and cannon; ammunition will be found his greatest difficulty. He hath sent already horse and

[1] *Mercurius Civicus*, No. 64, Aug. 15, 1644; quoted by Roland Phillips, vol. ii., p. 194.

foot to Shrewsbury (complaints and suspicions being cast upon Hunkes, the new governor), and will, as we hear, draw that way himself."[1] Again, Samuel More, the brave defender of Hopton Castle, a man well informed on all that transpired at the time, in a letter from Wem, 18th August, 1644, writes:—"Colonel Broughton is made Governor of Shrewsbury, and Sir F. Hunkes is gone to Chester."[2]

In the face of such evidence it cannot be doubted that Sir Fulke Hunkes was appointed Governor of Shrewsbury in place of Sir Francis Ottley, though he could have held the post little more than a month. It is also certain that Colonel Broughton succeeded him for a short period, a fact not recorded by our historians, Owen and Blakeway. It would further appear that Sir Francis Ottley ended his governorship some time in the month of July.

The occasion on which the next letter was written was when Prince Rupert had gone towards York with the object of relieving it, and the King was left to deal with Waller. On the 28th of June the King was manœuvering round Banbury, seeking an opportunity to fight Waller to advantage; "but Waller's tried skill availed him here, and on the following morning the Royal army turned off towards Daventry, in the hope of enticing Waller to leave the strong position which he had taken up." The battle of Copredy Bridge occurred the next day, in which Waller was beaten, and lost his park of artillery. Notwithstanding this success of the King, he thought it better to return to his old quarters at Evesham, where he remained some days, and on the 7th held a council of war which determined him to attack Essex before help could reach him.

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[1] Ormond's Letters, in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. xv., 3rd ser., p. 322.

[2] Original Letters, in the possession of Stanley Leighton, Esq., M.P., printed in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. viii., p. 372.

CCXI. THE KING REQUIRES TEN TONS OF CHEESE.

1644.

Sr

His Matie being advanced to Evesham hath by his L'rs from thence dated 6to Instantii Required me Speedilie to p'vide and send Tenn Tonne of Cheese from these parts to be delivered to the Mayor of Worcester, who shall give the owners satisfacc'on for the same according to the Markett Rates. I desire you therefore that youu send in this night or soe soone after as possiblie youu can to Bayliffe Synges house att Bridgenorth One Tonne of A good sorte of Cheese whether ould or this Year's making, and there shall be an Officer appoynted to Receive the same and to attend itt to Worcestr and to Demand and Receive the moneys for itt there, which shall upon his retourne bee speedilie paid to everie p'son who shall soe send in. Letting you further know, that as I have sent to his Matie an Account how I have p'ceeded in his Com'ands by sending him a Catalogue of the names of the p'sons and the p'porcons from them required Soe I must if there be A faile in any one—signifie the same to his Matie for my owne Excuse: I rest

Yor Loveing ffreind to serve
Youu L: Kirke

Bridgenorth
7o Julii 1644.

Sir Lewis Kyrke, of London, Knt., was Governor of Bridgnorth, and had to pay for his zeal in the Royal cause £150. [G.M.]

The first Governor of Bridgnorth was Sir William Pennyman, as appears from the following entry in the books of the Corporation of that town:—"For wine bestowed on Sir William Pennyman, Colonell, who was appointed by his Majesty, Governor of this Town, 10, October, 1642, 3s 4d." This is probably the same person who at a later date was Governor of Oxford, of whom Clarandon writes:—"Upon the death of Sir William Penniman, who had been Governor of Oxford, to the great satisfaction of all men, being a very brave and generous person, and who performed all manner of civilities to all sorts of people, as having had a good education, and well understanding the manners of the Court, . . . the King conferred that charge upon

Sir Arthur Aston." (*Hist.*, iv., p. 550.) It would appear that before March 28, 1643, he had ceased to hold the office in Bridgenorth. "The Town at this Common Hall doth unanimously consent and also desire, that John Bromley, Esq^{r} may be Governor of this Town, yf it may please the King's most Excellent Majesty to confer that place upon him." But whether the wishes of the Corporation were complied with there is no evidence to show. In 1644 (the month not given) an order of the Corporation mentions Sir Lewis Kirke as Governor. He was probably appointed on the advent of Prince Rupert in these parts. He was an active and energetic officer, though not particularly discreet. Thomas Dabridgecount, writing to Prince Rupert, March 11th, 1644, informs his Highness that Colonel Kirke writes "from Bridgnorth that Tuesday, the 14th is a day on which cattle are usually driven out from Wales into the enemy's garrisons into Staffordshire, which he shall stop, until he has commands from the Prince." (Warburton, ii., p. 385.) Sir Michael Woodhouse did the same thing at Ludlow, which elicited a letter from the Archbishop of York, from his castle at Conway, to Prince Rupert, preferring a plea for his Highness's protection of the poor cattle drovers, whom he calls "the Spanish fleet of North Wales, which brings hither the little gold and silver we have," from the oppression of Sir Michael Woodhouse, against whom they had petitioned. (*Ibid.*, iii., 56.) Sir Lewis Kyrke was removed from the governorship of Bridgnorth in the early part of 1646, in consequence of insubordination and "violent opposition" to the directions of Lord Asteley, regarding certain matters of discipline in the garrison; and Sir Robert Howard was appointed in his place, which he held up to the taking of the town by the Parliament in April following.

Major Thomas Smallman (of Wilderhope, co. Salop), the writer of the two following letters, held a commission in the regiment commanded by Sir Francis Ottley.

Genealogists are almost unanimous in regarding Thomas Smallman, son of Francis, by his wife Abigal, daughter of Hugh Morris, of Lorian, co. Denbigh, as the Major; but I venture to think they are mistaken. That there were two of the name, differing in age by 24 years, both officers in the King's service, the older uncle of the younger, and the latter heir of Wilderhope, can be easily proved.

In a list of indigent officers "Certified out of the Connty of Salop, by his Majesty's Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament for that purpose" [1665], preserved among the Ottley Papers, there is the following entry:—"Thomas Farnalls Cornett to Major Thomas Smallman, in the Regt. of Sir Francis Ottley." And in another paper in the same collection headed:—"To his Most Sacred Majesty, the Humble Petition of his Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Deputy Lieutenants, and all other Officers of the Militia of the County of Salop" [1661], tendering their services at the Restoration, there is subscribed the name of "Thomas Smallman, Lieutenant." The difference of rank can only be explained on the ground that there were two officers in the King's service of the same name. At the time the two following letters were written, which are without date, but from internal evidence must be referred to 1644, Lieutenant Thomas Smallman, baptized at Rushbury 3rd October, 1624, was not of age, and it is hardly possible to believe he could have risen to the rank of Major; or, judging from the tone of these letters, that they could have come from the pen of so young a man. His uncle, on the other hand, was 44 years of age, and obviously, according to his second letter, more impecunious than we can suppose the owner of Wilderhope to have been, which had not yet been compounded for.

The following references are doubtless to the younger man, the heir of Wilderhope, who appears to have been not in the least inferior to his uncle in zeal for his Royal master. In the report of the Proceedings of the

Committee of the Lords and Commons sitting at Derby House, Oct. 10, 1648, Mr. Thomas Smallman was in custody, and it was resolved that he be set at liberty upon paying £20. On Nov. 24 following it was resolved that "Smallman and Stockton be discharged from Peterhouse upon giving security;" and Thomas Smallman, of Wilderhope, co. Salop, entered into a Bond for his personal appearance before the Committee of Lords and Commons sitting at Derby House, when summoned, under a penalty of £500. (Cal. St. Pap., 1648-9.) We further find the following in a list of Shropshire compounders:—

A Particular of the Estate of Thomas Smalman of Wilderton [*sic*] in the County of Salopp, Esq^r^ for which he hath compounded at Goldsmith's hall, 26^mo^ die Junii 1649.

The Manor of Wilderton with appurtenances, p. ann.	60	0	0
In Stanton Lacy, Newton, and Ludlow, and Cheiff Rent in Thonglands ... p. ann.	40	0	0

The old family mansion of Wilderhope (variously spelt as Wildertopp and Wilderton), on the Wenlock Edge, three miles north-east of Rushbury, still exists, and is now occupied as a farm house; it is an interesting specimen of an early seventeenth century dwelling built of stone, On the ceiling of one of the rooms are the initials F.S. E.S., and over the door 1601, probably Francis Smallman, second son of Edward Smallman of Neenton and Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of George Hopton of Bitterley; "E.S." standing for his wife, Ellen Smallman. If this be so, the house must have been finished the second year after his death.

Three miles north of the house is a steep limestone rock, conspicuous on the west side of Wenlock Edge, which bears the name of *Smallman's Leap*. The tale runs that while most of his neighbours were on the Parliamentary side, Major Thomas Smallman was a zealous Royalist, and that on one occasion a few of Cromwell's troopers visited the house in his absence, and returning home shortly afterwards he followed

them by a circuitous route, and contrived to meet them in a narrow defile on the road to Ludlow about nightfall. By a sudden attack the Major is said to have killed two or three of the troopers, and to have recovered his property. It was not his fate to remain long in peace. Another stronger body of Cromwell's troopers surrounded his mansion at Wilderhope, when he had only time to mount his horse, and being closely pursued by them through Mogg Forest, he at length reached a cliff on Wenlock Edge, where rather than surrender himself he made a bold and daring leap into the dale below. The horse is said to have been killed, but the Major escaped with some bruises, and lived to witness the Restoration. (Hubert Smith, *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, Nov. 12, 1879.)

I am indebted for the following pedigree of the Smallmans, embodying the Heralds' Visitation of the County of Salop, 1663, to the kindness of the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, of St. Michael's Vicarage, Shrewsbury. It will enable the reader to understand what I have advanced above.

Ludlow, 17 Aug., 1663.

Stephen Smallman of Wilderhop, Esq. = Jane, daughter to Francis Lawley of Spoonhill, in Shrop., Esq.

- Francis Smallman of Wilderhop, died a.o. 1639. = Abigal, daughter to Hugh Morrice of Llorian in co. Denbigh.
  - 4 Edward
  - 3 Francis
  - 2 Stephen
  - Thomas Smallman of Wilderhop, æt. 39 an. 17 Aug., 1663. = Jane, daughter to Sir Richard Prince of Abbeyforegate, near Shrewsbury, Knt.
    - 1 Francis
    - 2 Richard
    - 3 Maurice
    - 4 Francis
    - } died young.
    - Anne, æt. 7 anno. 17, Aug., 1663.
    - Abigall, æt. 2, anno. 17, Aug. 1663.
  - Joyce, wife of Ed. Prichard of Burgeding in Com: Mont.
  - Anne, wife to Edward Jones of Luton in co. Bedfordshire.
- [Thomas Smallman, Major, Bap. Acton April, 1598 Round, 14 Vis. 1623.]

CERTIFIED BY MR. THOMAS SMALLMAN

Extracted from the Visitation of Co. Salop, 1663, by me George W Marshall Rouge Croix, 9th Sept., 1893.

CCXII. THOMAS SMALLMAN TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1644.

Sr Ludlow

the 4th Sepr

My humble Service presented to you: I believe you have heard of our misfortune: which I had acquainted you withall before this, but that I stay'd for the list of the Prisoners from Shrewsbury, which my Quarterm[r] hath; my humble request to you is that you will be pleased to use what means you possibly can for the enlargem[t] of our Men [that] are taken. I vow to God I never saw men behave themselves more gallently then they did, and therefore I hope you will be the more mindfull of them. In the mean time I desire you would furnish me with some money to releive them. Coll: Davileir wonders you did not send the Men to me you promised and to that end hath sent my Quarterm[r], I desire you would send what men you can by him with all Speed may be, for I believe we shall go upon present Service, thus hoping to hear from you ere long with my Service to my Lady and the rest of my Friends. I humbly take leave and rest

Your Friend & Servant

Tho: Smallman

To the right hon[ll] Sir
Francis Ottley Knt and Coll:
at Bridgnorth these.

This reference to a defeat may be to that sustained by a body of Royalist troops at Malpas, Cheshire, composed of drafts from various regiments in Shropshire and neighbouring garrisons, then on its way to Shrewsbury, and thence to the King. Brereton being at Nantwich received information of its movements on Saturday evening, Aug. 24, marched on Sunday night reaching Malpas at break of day, and immediately charged the Royalists with such vigour and success that they were completely routed, with the loss of several of their field officers. Colonels Conyers, Baynes, and Hesketh were slain, Sir Marmaduke Langdale wounded, and many officers and men taken prisoners. Brereton reports the event, and states that the Royalists "were then upon their march towards

Shrewsbury, and so to the King; but fled back towards Chester, where they could not be admitted, but were looked upon very scornfully, because they were beaten back by so inconsiderable a number, which they exceeded ten to one." Brereton has tinged his sketch with a little Parliamentary paint. (King's Papers, 172-8.)

CCXIII. THOMAS SMALLMAN TO THE SAME.

1644.

Humble Service p'sented: Mr Warring hath sent to me to send [some] money to him to supply his wants in Prison, which (had I been [able]) I should not failed to have done, we have received [no] money since I came to Ludlow, whereby I am sure [you] will conceive that I cannot be able to do what I [desire], especially were I able I should not fail to relieve so gallant a Man as Mr Warring is, [my] humble request to you is that you would be pleased to [send] him some relief by this bearer for the present [need. The] first money I receive I shall both furnish him [with and] the rest to the Utmost of my Ability, and in the [meantime I humbly] take leave & rest

Yo^r faithfull Servant
10th to Command
THO: SMALLMAN

To the right Wor^ll
S^r Francis Oatley Kn^t
and Coll at Bridgnorth
this.

This letter is much damaged, the words in brackets are conjectural.

CCXIV. A RECEIPT FOR CHEESE.

1644.

24th of September 1644.

Rec. of Rich: Meare of Buildas 1200: weight of Cheese w^ch is to bee d'd. in Shrewsberry by the Constable, for his Ma^ts use & for w^ch hee is to receave or to bee allowed att the Rate of 2^d the pound.

By mee

Ric Hoflez:

We find in the next document Sir Francis Ottley was sitting as one of the Commissioners of Shropshire, but not as Governor. It may have been this which led the authors of the *History of Shrewsbury* to state that his government, "it is certain, continued from February, 1642-3, to November or December, 1644." But we have seen that long previous to this sitting of the Commissioners he had been superseded in the office.

CCXV. A SITTING OF PRINCE RUPERT AND THE COMMISSIONERS.

1644.

Primo die Novembris An'o d'no 1644

Att a Sitting of the Commission^rs of Prince Rupert his hignesse in Shrewsbury

Present

The high Sheriff[1]
S^r ffrancis Ottley
Mr Owen[2]
Mr Lacon[3]
Mr Smith[4]
Sir Vincent Corbett
Mr Sandford[5]
Mr Treves.

It is Ordered that all the Rents of the Lord of Bridgewater that are unreceaved and to bee recaved within this County be receaved by S^r Frauncis Ottley, for Satisfacon of all arreares

---

[1] Mr. Thomas Edwardes.

[2] Roger Owen, of the Council House, Shrewsbury, son and heir of Sir William Owen, of Condover, Knt. Both father and son were active adherents of King Charles, and both were punished for their loyalty, the father not so severely as the son, the former being let off on payment of £314, whilst the latter had to pay £700. Roger married Alice, daughter of Gilbert Gerard, Lord Gerard, and was buried at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, March 1st, 1660-1.—G.M.

[3] James Lacon, of West Coppice, co. Salop, Esq. He compounded for his estate by payment of £554, and died 1667.—G.M.

[4] Probably Francis Smith, of Burton, co. Salop.—G.M.

[5] Arthur Sandford, of Sandford, Esq., grandfather of the celebrated Herald and Genealogist. His name appears to the "Ingagement and Resolution," above-mentioned. He was a zealous supporter of the King, was taken prisoner at the capture of Shrewsbury, Feb. 22nd, 1644-5, but died before the general sequestration of property. His son and heir, Francis, who imitated his father's example, had to compound by payment of £459.—G.M.

due to him and his Offic[rs], bie former engagement for quartering and Cloathing of his Souldi[rs], And the future pay of himselfe, Offic[rs] and Souldi[rs], hee rendering a accompt thereof when he shall bee thereunto required by Prince Rupert his highnes, or his Com[s] for this County.[1]

John Prideaux, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, was elevated to the see of Worcester, Nov. 22nd, 1641, and died July 20th, 1650, aged 72. [G.M.] He was the fourth son of John Prideaux, of Stowford, Devon; educated at Exeter College, Oxford; Rector of his College from 1612 to 1624; Vice-Chancellor from 1619 to 1621, from 1642 to 1626, and 1641 to 1642. He was Chaplain to Prince Henry, King James, and King Charles I.; and Regius Professor of Divinity in Oxford. Though much impoverished by the Parliamentary sequestrators, he appears to have retained a cheerful mind. Being once asked how he did, he replied, "Never better in my life, only I have too great a stomach, for I have eaten that little plate which the sequestrators have left me; I have eaten a great library of excellent books, and have eaten a great deal of linen, much of my brass, some of my pewter, and now I am come to eat iron; and what will come next I know not." He was reduced to such distress that in his will he could bequeath his children nothing but "pious poverty, God's blessing, and a father's prayers." *(Alumni Ox.*; Walk, *Suff. Clergy*; Southey's *Book of the Church.)*

CCXV. THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY:

1644.

S[r]

I am intreated by Mr Hyde this bearer, to mediate for him that he may be eased in some sort of the taxe that is layd uppon him. Heeretofore the subduction of the mayntenance of the ministry hath beene held Sacriledge, and their depress-

[1] Abbreviated in Owen and Blakeway. The original is signed, but not decipherable.

ing taken as an affront to their master (to whose Service they are consecrated) w^ch^ hath never sped well. Of your zeal to God's Church and Ministers none that know you doubt, which makes mee confident you will doe in this case what you may. I was sorry that you left Worcester so soone but trust wee shall see you hear soone agayne. This bearer will in forme you of occurences. With my devoted service to your Lady and the blessing of god uppon you and yours, I rest,

Your faythfull freind
in Christ to be commanded

Wocest 9^bris^
15^to^ Jo. Wigorn

For the Right
Wors^ll^ S^r^ Francis
Oatley.

Probably Randulph, or Randle, Hyde is the person referred to, who was Rector of Billingsley, co. Salop, in 1624, and of Sidbury in 1631, neither of which places is in the Diocese of Worcester, but we may suppose that he was a friend of the kind Bishop who used his influence to save him from the assessment. Randle Hyde, B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, and M.A. of Oxford, was the father of the learned divine, Thomas Hyde, D.D., Archdeacon of Gloucester.

Richard Meyer, collector of the Assessment of the parish of Buildwas, made his return to Sir Francis Ottley, who preserved it amongst his papers, and hence we have become possessed of an unique document. Richard Meyer is the same man, although his name is spelt Meare, from whom Lieut.-Colonel Richard Hosier obtained 1,200 weight of cheese for the King's service two months prior to the date of this return, the receipt for which has also come down to us by the same means. I am informed that a Richard Meire was born at Berrington in 1604, who died in 1673, an ancestor of Mr. George Meire now living at Eyton-on-Severn. It is not improbable that this is the same individual who gathered the Assessment.

CCXVI. ASSESSMENT OF BUILDWAS.

1644.

Mony payd by Richard Meyer for p'te of the [Assessment] of Bylewas [Buildwas] in 1644.

Payd for two assesments at vj^{d} p.^{li} at xlvj^{li} p. an'u. the som	2	6	0
p'd for one assesment at xij^{d} p.^{li} at xlvj^{li} p ann. the som of	2	6	0
p'd three assesments at iiij p.^{li} at xlvj^{li} p. ann. the som of	2	6	0
pd one other assesment at vj^{d} p.^{li} at xlvj^{li} p. an. to madley garrison...	1	3	0
p'd into Wellington fieve severall times to Colonell Hosier use and S^{r} Willa' Vaughan in p . . . unto the value of	0	15	0
sent into madley by Comand of major Curenffield towards alsoe for souldiers...	0	2	3
pd. towards the bildinge of the Sentery house and gard of Bylewas Bridge	0	13	0
the 17th of 9 ber 1644.			
Payd by me Richard meyer to M^{r} Edward Evans Servante to S^{r} ffra. Ottley the som of	2	4	9

It has been supposed that the Madeley Garrison referred to in the above was at the house of Sir Basil Brooke, Knt., a short distance from the town of Madeley, the ruinous shell of which is still to be seen, and is known as Madeley Court. It is a stone structure about the date of James I., or some portions as early as Elizabeth, carrying the symmetry and solidity of that period combined with not a little elegance in its Italian details, and is altogether suggestive of a knightly residence. It is surrounded by a high wall enclosing a spacious court-yard, and what must have been an ornamental garden, entered beneath an imposing gate-house. With a moderate force this place, in the absence of artillery, was capable of defence against a considerable body of men. But I have not been able to discover any evidence that it was ever garrisoned. In the parish register of Madeley there occurs this entry:—"1645. Careless, William, b^{d} April

14, at which time ye Church was garrisoned by a p'ty of ye Parl[t] commanded by Capt. Ferrington." It seems probable, therefore, that they had driven out the Royalists from the Church, and occupied it for the Parliament. The situation is a commanding one, from which it would not be an easy task to dislodge a determined force.

When the Corporation of Shrewsbury decided in the month of March, 1643, to fortify Montford Bridge, and to set up turnpikes at the ends of the bridges of the town, they wrote to James Lacon of West Coppys, to send them workmen who made the turnpikes at Buildwas. (Owen and Blakeway, i., p. 433.) The sentry-house was a necessary addition.

The Privy Seal dated the 14th February appears to have been unsuccessful in providing adequate funds for the King's necessities; the following reads like a compromise, suggested by the sheer impossibility of exacting all that was needed from an impoverished country.

CCXVII. UNPAID LOANS

1644.

Oxoñ Die Sabbathi 21°: Die Decembris 1644

Whereas L'rs were sent to severall p'sons for Loanes towards the raiseing of 100 000[l], and the Sheriffs of the severall Countyes to whom they were appointed to make paym[t] thereof were directed upon their default of paym[t] to require them to make their p'sonal appearance at Oxford. And because, as passages now are, their appearance may be dangerous for p'vention thereof, to such as are well Affected to his Ma[t's] Service, it is ordered by the Lords and Com'ons of Parlia[t] assembled at Oxford, that the Sheriffe of each County, and such others as shalbe imployed in the collectinge of the said Loane moneys, where they shall find cause, may receave such considerable p'portions as they can gett, upon every of the said Let'res, in p'te of paym[t], and give discharge accordingly, And that the severall Sheriffs (soe as they doe not admit frivilous Allegac'ons) may take the Answers of the said p'sons touching the residue, and shall certifie the same, togeather with the reasons Alleadged by them for Mittigac'on, to the Lords and

Com'ons here assembled, to the end that according as the same shalbe by them allowed, or disallowed, further course may be thereupon taken; But where the said p'sons to whom such letters for Loane are directed shall not pay a considerable p'porc'on the said Sheriffs are to p'ceed according to their former direcc'ons.

Exam[d] NATH: SMITH NOAH BRIDGES

When the usual time arrived for appointing the new High Sheriff, the rival Parliaments each appointed its own. The Westminster Parliament appointed Thomas Mytton of Halston, who had served its cause so well, then Governor of Oswestry. The exact date of the appointment of Sir Francis Ottley by the King has not transpired, but the following instructions to him regarding the Loan show that it was prior to the 23rd December, and therefore some days earlier than Mytton's appointment.

CCXVIII. THE KING AND PARLIAMENT AT OXFORD ON UNPAID LOANS.

1644.

Charles R

Trusty and Well beloved we greet you well: whereas heretofore, by the advice of the Members of both Houses of Parliament here Assembled, We directed our Letters to diverse persons within the County of Salop, for the Loan of severall summes of Money therein mentioned, towards the raysing of one hundred Thousand pounds for the Support of our Army, for the defence of us and our people, against the late invasion from Scotland, the sad Effects of which Invasion doe not only still Continue but daily encrease and (unless speedily prevented) are likely to grow worse to the Apparent Ruine and Destruction of this whole Kingdom, Which summs of Money, or the Value thereof in Plate, by Our said Letters we desired should be paid to the hands of the Sheriffe of our said County, or such as he should appoint, for which purpose we sent the said severall Letters to our late Sheriffe, with Schedule of the particular Summes desired at the names of each particular person appearing, together with another Letter from Us to our said late Sheriff, desiring his case for a speedy Delivery of the said Letters for Loane to the parties to whom they were

directed, and to give Them notice that such as Should not conform to our desires therein should forthwith doe, and be dealt with as in the said Letters is expressed. And that such Money or plate as Our said late Sheriffe should receive, Should be by him returned and payd here at Oxford at Corpus Christi Colledge to the Hands of the Earl of Bath, the Lord Seymour, Mr John Ashburnham, and Mr John Frettiplace, or any of them (being appointed Treasurers, and to give you Receipts for the same) with diverse other directions therein, as by our said former Letters more at large appeareth; whereof we have yet had little or no Accompt, to the great prejudice of Us, and the welfare and safety of Our Kingdomes. Forasmuch as our continuall desires and endeavours for Peace cannot but have the better success when it shall appeare to the World, that our Army is in a condition to defend Us, and our Kingdomes against all such as shall oppose that Peace (whereunto the Service aforesaid being to furnish us with money to support our Army, not only much conduceth, but will admit of no delay) we do therefore hereby will and require you, that immediately upon the Receipt of these Our Letters, you doe make two severall Certificates in Writing, one to the said Lords and Commons here assembled, another to our said Treasurer, what is become of the said Letters and Schedules, and to express the number of them, and the Persons names to whom they are directed, and what summe or summes of Money or the Value in Plate, you or either of you have received, and of whom, and how the same is disposed of, together with the names of such as have not payed, or shall alleadge and pretend payment, and not shew such an acquittance as in our said Letters is mentioned, together also with the answers of all such defaulters of payment; And what you or either of you have done in the pursuance of Our said former Directions. And these are further to require you or either of you, that what Moneys you or either of you have already received (and not returned hither or Otherwise disposed of by Order and Direction from the said Lords and Commons here Assembled, or by our Order with their approbation), and any Considerable Summe that you shall hereafter receive (unless it shall otherwise be or hath been ordered and directed to be disposed of by the said Lords and Commons or by us by their advice and approbation), you doe now forthwith so much as you or either of you have already received, and what you shall hereafter receive within fourteen days after the Receipt thereof, return and pay to our said Treasurers here as aforesaid. And you shall also now, and from time to time

hereafter, send to our said Lords and Commons here assembled, and our said Treasurers, severall true Certificates of all such Moneys as you have received or hereafter shall receive, and of whom, and the names of the defaulters of payment, together with their answers, and your further doings in pursuance of these and our former instructions concerning the premises. And because we desire that all our Subjects should be equally dealt withall, without respect of Persons; these are further to require you our now High Sheriffe, that immediately upon receipt hereof you give particular and personall notice to all and every person (as well our Commissioners as others) that have not payed or Satisfied the Summe or Summes of money in the Letters to them directed, mentioned, that they are forthwith to pay the same, or within fourteen days notice, personally to attend the Lords and Commons of Parliament assembled at Oxford, for such further procedings therein as shall be meet; In the collecting and receiving of which Money, and all and singular the premises, we desire and expect your uttermost endeavours, care, and dilligence, and an exact and perfect Account thereof. And in regard of the danger and hazard of miscarriage of papers, in respect of the obstructions of the passages, these are to require you to make and send by severall Conveyances Duplicates of all such Certificates, as you shall now, or at any time hereafter make concerning the Premises, one whereof to be directed to the said Lords and Commons here assembled, and another to our said Treasurer. And for your better Assistance in the premises, you or either of you are hereby required, to desire all and every of our Commissioners, not only to pay the summes of them desired, but also to joyne their best endeavours with yours for the accomplishment of the premises, whose Conformity and good example in Payment will be more prevailent with Others. Of all which fail you not, as you tender the Good and Welfare of Us, and our Kingdoms. Given at our Court at Oxford y^{e} 23th of December 1644

To our Trusty and well beloved
the now, and last Sheriffe of
Salop.

By y^{e} Advice of y^{e} members of
both houses of Parliament Assembled
at Oxford.

Ed. Littleton Co.
Samp. Eure.

The chief events in Shropshire this year are the following. The Prince, as already stated, arrived in Shrewsbury on the 18th[1] of February, where he made all necessary arrangements for settling the differences of the garrison, and selected a detachment to accompany him to the north, with others drawn from elsewhere in the neighbourhood. In his official orders he is styled :—"Prince Rupert, Count Palatine of the Rhine, Duke of Bavaria and Cumberland, Earl of Holderness, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Captain-General under his Highness Prince Charles, Prince of Great Britain, and of all the Forces of Horse and Foot within the Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick," &c. He appears to have had a large establishment, and to have lived in state, the liveries of his footmen costing £200, being equal to £600 of our money.[2]

While inspecting the various garrisons, he was "On the fifth of March, passing near Market Drayton," when "he learned that Colonel Fairfax was there with his regiment of seven hundred men. The Prince was accompanied only by his own troop, but sending orders for his regiment to move up, he dashed into the town, drove in the mustering troops, and forced them into a 'close:' a few hours afterwards the cavalry arrived, forced the close, and took the whole regiment prisoners."[3] "He continued to dart about through the associated counties, sometimes at night, sometimes at early morning, sometimes in broad noon; with a troop or two of cavalry, affronting strong towns, and daring whole battalions. From Wem, Whitchurch, Tamworth, Edgebaston, Hull, Lichfield (where Sawyer, an attorney, served him with refreshments, on his knees); from

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[1] Gardiner states, on the authority of Dugdale, that he was here on the 21st, but the Corporation accounts previously quoted leave no room for doubt that his first arrival was on the 18th. Warburton says "about the 19," (ii., 376.)

[2] *Ibid*, 379.

[3] *Ibid*, 389

all these places I find letters written anxiously by Lord Denbigh's commanders, stating that Rupert was coming." On the 8th of March he had returned to Shrewsbury, and on the 15th he was at Bridgnorth, on his way to Newark, where he arrived on the 20th, raised the siege, and appointed Sir Richard Byron governor. He then appears at Hereford (23rd), Oxford (25th), and on the 29th was in North Wales issuing his orders and proclamations. In the meantime Aply Castle had been gained for the King.

The same day that Prince Rupert arrived in Shrewsbury, Samuel More of Linley, with a small force of twenty-six men, occupied Hopton Castle, the property of Mr. Wallop, a Parliamentarian. Sir Michael Woodhouse drew out his forces from Ludlow, and after several successive attacks compelled the garrison to surrender unconditionally, the occupation by More having only lasted a little over five weeks. The castle was then so far demolished by its captor as to render it incapable of further defence. According to *Mercurius Britanicus*, Sir Michael was guilty of great brutality to the men taken prisoners.

Brampton Bryan Castle, Herefordshire, the seat of Sir Robert Harley, situated about four miles south of Hopton Castle, was immediately after besieged by Sir Michael Woodhouse, and was surrendered to him on the 17th of April. The gallant Lady Brilliana Harley had shortly before caught a severe cold and died, otherwise the defence might have been prolonged.

Longford House, near Newport, the property of the Earl of Shrewsbury, which had been seized by the Parliamentary troops, was, as we have already stated, recovered for the King by an Irish force under Tillier, April 2nd, and Tong Castle on the 5th.

May the 16th Prince Rupert is again at Shrewsbury, on the 18th at Nantwich, the 19th at Whitchurch, the 20th at Chester, and on the 23rd beats the enemy in a skirmish before Knutsford, wins the pass of Stockport, takes the town, and thereby relieves Latham

House, so long and so bravely defended by the Countess of Derby. The Prince soon afterwards left this part of the country, clearing his way towards York.

During this time little occurred in Shropshire till June the 19th, when Colonel Mytton, constantly on the watch to strike a blow at the enemy, surprised a small force designed to escort ammunition from Oswestry to Chester for the Prince. It took place at Duddleston, five miles north-east of the former place, where he captured 27 prisoners; but what was of more importance learned the weakness of the Oswestry garrison.

Four days later, Lord Denbigh and Col. Mytton, taking advantage of there being but a small force at Oswestry, marched to that town, and after meeting with a vigorous but short resistance won it for the Parliament, taking prisoners 14 officers, 19 non-commissioned officers, and 305 men, besides 80 townsmen found in arms. A quantity of arms and ammunition was also taken, and Mytton was appointed Governor.

Oswestry being but a short distance from Shrewsbury caused its capture to be felt as an irritating disaster by the garrison of the latter place, and Col. Hunckes, the then Governor, made an effort to regain it on July 2nd. Lord Denbigh, who was at Nantwich, receiving prompt information of the movement, despatched Sir Thomas Middleton with all speed to raise the siege, who performed his task successfully, routing the enemy, and chasing them nearly to the walls of Shrewsbury; Col. Marrow, to whom Hunckes had entrusted the command, was near being taken prisoner, and would have been but for the speed of his horse. Francis Newport, son and heir of Lord Newport, was taken with other officers and men, and many arms and much ammunition.

We are indebted to Gough, the historian of Middle, for an account of an interesting incident that occurred during the time Mytton was Governor of Oswestry :—

Prince Rupert came this way, with a great army, and made his Rendezvous on Holloway Hills and took his quarters all

night at Cockshutt, and the next day he made his Rendezvous at Ellesmere. Att which time Mr. Mitton of Halston was Generall[1] of the Parliament forces in this county, and was a valiant and political commander; and hearing the Prince made only his rendezvous at Ellesmere, and intended to go forward, the Generall, hoping to find some straglers in Ellesmere that stayed behind the army, came with a troop of horse throw byeways; but when he came to the gate that goes out of Oateley Parke,[2] he found that he was come too soone, for there was three or four troopes of horse at Oately Hall, which got between him and home; and, therefore, when hee and all his men were come throw the gate, they shott a horse dead up to the gate to keep it from opening; but the others soone broke downe three or four ranks of pals, and followed so close that all the Generall's men, before they came to Ellesmere, were taken, except the Generall, and one George Higley, a little fellow. Att last, one that had a good horse, overtook the Generall, and laid his hand on his shoulder, and said, "You are my prisoner;" but Higley struck the other in the face with his sword, which caused him to fall. and so the Generall and Higley turned down the dark lane that goes to Birch Hall, and the others went strait into the town, but the Generall and Higley escaped: and when they went to Welsh Frankton,[3] there they made a stay, and one other of his men came to them. The Generall had lost his hat; but being furnished again, he went to Oswaldstree, a garrison for the Parliament."[4]

1645.

The new year opens with a still more gloomy outlook for the Royal cause. Prince Rupert had come to set all things right: he left them worse than he found them. Neither money nor men were to be had, and a bitter discontent and disunion were rife amongst the King's warmest adherents. Prince Maurice, a man

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[1] Mr. Blakeway, when quoting this incident in his *Sheriffs*, alludes to Gough styling Mytton "General," as though Gough was wrong, but he was certainly appointed Major-General, with the chief command in North Wales.

[2] Probably in the same position as the present gateway near the south-east end of the Mere.

[3] About 2½ miles from the park-gate, south-west

[4] Page 42.

of far less ability, was sent to accomplish a task in which his brother had failed. He was appointed Major-General of Worcester, Salop, Hereford, and Monmouth, and made Worcester his headquarters.

There was no man who felt more interest in the success of the Royal cause in Shropshire, or worked more zealously for it, than Sir Robert Howard of Clun Castle, Knight of the Bath. His career is deserving of a brief sketch. Elected M.P. for Bishop's Castle 21 Jany., 1623-4, he was re-elected in 1625, 1626, 1628, and to both the Short and Long Parliament in 1640; in 1642 he was appointed one of the Commissioners of Array for Shropshire, and for discharging the duties was expelled the House; his name stands third on the list of the gentlemen who engaged to raise and maintain forces for the defence of his Majesty and the country (No. LXIX.), and when the King and his Parliament removed to Oxford Sir Robert Howard joined them. He commanded a regiment of Dragoons, and took an active part in the defence of Bridgnorth in 1646, of which town he had been appointed governor in the place of Sir Lewis Kyrke, and when it capitulated to the Parliament on the 26 of April in that year he with others signed the Articles of Surrender. He died 22 April, 1653, and was buried at Clun, where a brass in the Church commemorates his name.

Immediately Prince Maurice received his commission, Sir Robert Howard obtained an interview with him to learn the wishes of his Highness regarding Shropshire. The following letter was the result of that interview—a letter which, while evincing the loyalty of the writer, does honour to him by its generous recognition of the valuable services rendered by Sir Francis Ottley to the King's cause.

CCXIX. SIR ROBERT HOWARD TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1644-5.

S^r^

I find his Highness soe inclineable to any thing that may conduce to y^e^ Generall satisfaction of the Counties and

rectifying of all abuses; that it were unseemly in us who are thereby concerned not to answer him in the like measure of dutifull respect, which will the better apeare by condecending to his last demands mentioned in his letter; I would likewise freindly advise you to tender the reputation of your County whose example gave first life to his Ma^ties affayres (a great part of which glory redounded to your self) that they whose Loyalty hath beene soe conspicous bee not out ballanced by other Counties, who have unanimously condecended to give an hundred pounds p^r month towards his High^s Intertaynment. which as it is expected by his High^s soe is it most earnestly desired by all who wish well to your County and in particular by

Sir

[? Jany. 1644-5.] Your humble Servant

Ro. Howard.

For my much honoured
freind S^r ffrancis
Ottley High Sherriffe
of Shropshire, these.

The next letter has neither address nor date; from internal evidence it should come in here, and most likely was written in reply to the preceding from Sir Robert Howard. Mr. George Morris considered it was addressed to Prince Maurice, which is obviously improbable.

CCXX. SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY ON THE MODE OF LEVYING.

1644-5.

S^r

At my first Assembling of the County, I found no small Distraction arisen betweene the Commissioners and the other Gentlemen of the County about the contribution for the Pay of the Souldiers and Garrisons, and the Proportion to be Levied for that service, w^ch is now happilie composed and Accorded: Nevertheless, howsoever, the Gentlemen have consented, for the Present to hold the forme of Levie by Poundage, w^ch they have used for these divers moneths, yet They both formerly did, and now earnestly doe, require That this Levie, hence forward, may be Proceeded in accordingly as is directed by the Letter of the Articles agreed upon by the Lords and Commons Assembled at Oxon, namely, according to the Old Division of Alottments; and They doe undertake, both to use such Dilligence that all Inequallitie of those

alottm^ts and Divisions shall be rectified, and the full pay for the Officers and Souldiers Limited in his Hignesses Establishment shall be Justly brought in, Provided that the Numbers and Musters in every Garrison be, as is there Established; But because the Countie now much Exhausted, is heavily Charged with the Pay of many Supernumerarie Officers, whose Companies are much weakened, and some of them almost extinct, it is their Humble Desire that his Highness will be pleased to provide for the Moderating and easing of the Countrey's Burthen, by some other way of Disposing Those Officers, and Reduction of their Commands: These things, S^r, they doe by me Recommend Respectively unto yo^r Sollicitation, that his Highness may be Moved both to Declare what his pleasure is, concerning that proposition of Alottments, and to frame such Favourable Answere to their second Desire that the Counties' Charge may be Eased, and their Chearfullness in the Service thereby increased; you may further be pleased with Tender of my Humble Service to Represent unto his Highness, that the Gentlemen lately imployed in the presenting of the Counties' Petition to his Ma^tie are now at Ludlow, on the behalf of this Countie, Perfiting an Association with the Counties of Worcester, Hereford, Monmouth and Stafford; and that I am now very Intent upon the Aestimating and Considering of the Posse, that men may be presently Listed for his Ma^ties Service according to o^r Declaration, and the Proceedings of the Westerne Association. The Commissioners have Addressed unto his Highness a l're, not much varying (I believe) from the sense of this: My Time is so Taken up with the Other Service that I could not Attend the Draught and Subscription thereof: This is All w^ch I have to Represent and Signifie unto you, saving that I am Sir

Yo^r very Respective freind and serv^t

Salop, Jany: 12^o 1644. FFRANCIS OTTLEY V. C.

CCXXI. PRINCE MAURICE TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF SALOP. 1644-5.

GENTT

This day, I received a letter from S^r Lewis Kyrke, Governor of Bridgnorth, alleadging that his Warrants for the Advancement of the Works att Bridgnorth were disobeyed, w^ch I cannot avoyde to take notice of, being sent downe by his Ma^ty to advaunce the affayres of those parts for the good of his Ma^tys Service. To the intent that I may ease & Cheerish your

County as much as may bee, therefore, I desire to knowe what their greivances & dislikes are, & why, & upon what grounds, the Govenorˢ Warrants were neglected, that if reason be Shewed, I may doe the Countrey that right, wᶜʰ in Justice they may expect, or, how ever, see those things perfected, which conduce to the securiety of those parts, & the better Serving his Maᵗʸ; wᶜʰ is all att present I have to say but that I am,

Gentⁿ,

Worcester, 19 of Jany. [1644-5.] Your lo. ffreind, MAURICE.

To his Maᵗʸᵉˢ Comissionʳˢ of the County of Salop. Comᵉʳ of Salop

Shortly after the date of the above letter Prince Maurice left Worcester on his way to render relief to Chester, arriving at Shrewsbury on the 4th of March. The Mayor's accounts of the year include this entry :—

ffebruary the 4ᵗʰ 1644.

Paid a bill for Wyne Cakes and shugar bestowed upon Prynce Morris his highnes.

2 g's of Sacke	0	13	4
2 small sugar Loaves	0	12	0
4 doss of Cakes	0	8	0
	1	13	4

Lewis Davies.

Sir Michael Ernley wrote to Sir Francis Ottley the next letter, which, although familiar to the readers of Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, must be printed here to complete the collection. This officer probably succeeded Colonel Broughton as Governor of Shrewsbury, October 21 in the preceding year, for I find the following entry in the Mayor's accounts :—

October ye 21. 1644. Paid for Cakes and Sugar bestowed upon Sᵗ Michaell Ernly, Kᵗ and Governor of this town. xjˢ iiijᵈ

Lewis Davies.

Sir Michael is said to have descended from an ancient Wiltshire family, and to have been an experienced soldier. He came from Ireland in charge of the troops

sent by the Marquis of Ormond, November, 1643, and took part immediately on landing in the siege and capture of Hawarden Castle. He was also in command of the reserve in the encounter with the enemy at Middlewich, when victory fell to the Royalists, under Sir Robert Byron. And again, in the battle before Nantwich, between Lord Byron and Sir Thomas Fairfax, he and Colonel Warren were in command of the centre, which, by its hasty retreat "without almost fighting a stroke," led to the loss of the day, and the capture of several officers and men, of whom Sir Michael was one. How long he remained in the hands of the enemy is not stated, but, as I have said, in October he was appointed Governor of Shrewsbury, which post he occupied till the taking of the town in February, when he was again made a prisoner. Being now in the last stage of a consumption he died in April, and was buried at St. Mary's Shrewsbury, on the 28th.

CCXXII. SIR MICHAEL ERNLEY TO THE SAME.

1644-5.

S^r^

Although you pleased to joyne w^th^ the gentlemen of this County to promise me contributions speedily to be brought in for the subsistence of this Garrison, yet, neither you nor they, have performed, By meanes whereof I am in extreame hazard of a Mutiny, which I can noe lesse than conceive to bee the ayme of those that have brought mee to this distracc'on. Here is not now any moneys towards the pay of the Soldiers twelve pences. I shall desire you to give them notice hereof, and to take some present course that I may be presently supplied, otherwise I must be enforced to suffer the Soldiers to live as they may. I also desire you to give me your speedy answeare of the Letter you receivid from Prince Maurice his highness, and what assistance of the County I may expect from you for the Diverting of the Enemies course from Chester. I hope you and the Gentlemen of the County will send mee noe less then a thousand. If they shall prove backward in a busines of soe great consequence to the Service of his Ma'ty, I am Confident, you must conclude with mee, that they want affection to his Ma^ts^ service, and that all other their

undertakings are noe more then mere pretences. I shal desire your answeare by the Bearer. And soe extreame hastily rest,

Salop 25 Januarii 1644

Yo^r humble Servant,
MIC: ERNLEY

ffor his Ma^ts Speciall Service,
to S^r ffrancis Ottley, high Sheriffe
of the County of Salop, theis

p'sent
MIC: ERNLEY.

hast hast
post hast.

CCXXIII. SIR W. BELLENDEN TO THE SAME.

1644-5.

NOBLE S^r

I am not able to expres the earnest desire His H^s hath, to come into Shropshire; which before this would have been accordingly performed, if the disorders here did not necessarily require His stay. By His H^s letter directed to yourself, the Com^rs & Gentry of the County, you will particularly understand His desires, & I am confident that therein you will apply your self for His H^s satisfaction; nothing being desired but the security of your County, & therein the advantage of his Maj^ties Service. Pray S^r, let it be your worke in particular to gain the publick consent of 100^lb per month, forth of your County, for His H^s Intertainm^t the like some being agreed upon from each of the three other Counties under His H^s Com'ands. None doth more consider the extraordinary Charge that the County hath longe suffered then myself, but this is not only fitt, but necessary, & I am sure that His H^s will no sooner come amongst you, but, by his Application to do Justice, & to remove the just greivances of the County, it will be found money well imployed: my haste will allow me to say no more, but that I am

S^r
Your Affectionate & humble Servant,

W. BELLENDEN.

Worcester,
this 27^th of Jan'ry,
1644.

For my very Worthy
friend S^r ffrancis
Ottley High Sherriff of
the County of Salop
these.

The interest of the next paper lies in the earnestness which the High Sheriff has thrown into it, and the undiminished zeal for the King's cause it displays, which raises it to a much higher level than a mere official document.

CCXXIV. SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF MUNSLOW HUNDRED.

1644-5.

Salop ff.

Gent[n] Comissioners of the hundred of Mounslowe, I sir ffrancis Ottley, Knight, high Sheriff of the County of Salop, By the vertue of his ma[ties] authority to me given, have given you the Comission of the posse comitatus, & by that I sumon your hundred to furnish me with three hundred able fighting foote men, with the best armes they can produce, to wayte upon me for the expelling of the Rebells out of this County that are against his ma[tie], And to expulse them, if our power is able, that therby every man may reape the frute of his owne labours in peace and quietnes. The King tould me that this County put him upon his leggs, and if we can settle the Crowne upon his head, it wilbe an honour to us and our posterity. Let this be an encouragem't to you rather to dye then to out live this our endeavour;

Salop the first of ffeb. 1644.

Your loving frend,
FFRANCIS OTTLEY, V.C.

Now or nev'; when I shall give you the day to be in a readinesse, we have such an opportunity, yf we loose that, we are lost.

for his ma[ties] speciall service
ffor the Comissioners of the Hundred
of Mounslowe, the Knights gentlemen
of the posse Comitatus
Take a Coppy & send it to the rest of the Comissioners

CCXXV. COMMISSION OF CORNET GEYWOOD.

1645.

S[r] ffrauncis Ottley Knight high Sheriff
of the County of Salop & Coll. of one Regim[t] of horse
To Corronet Geywood

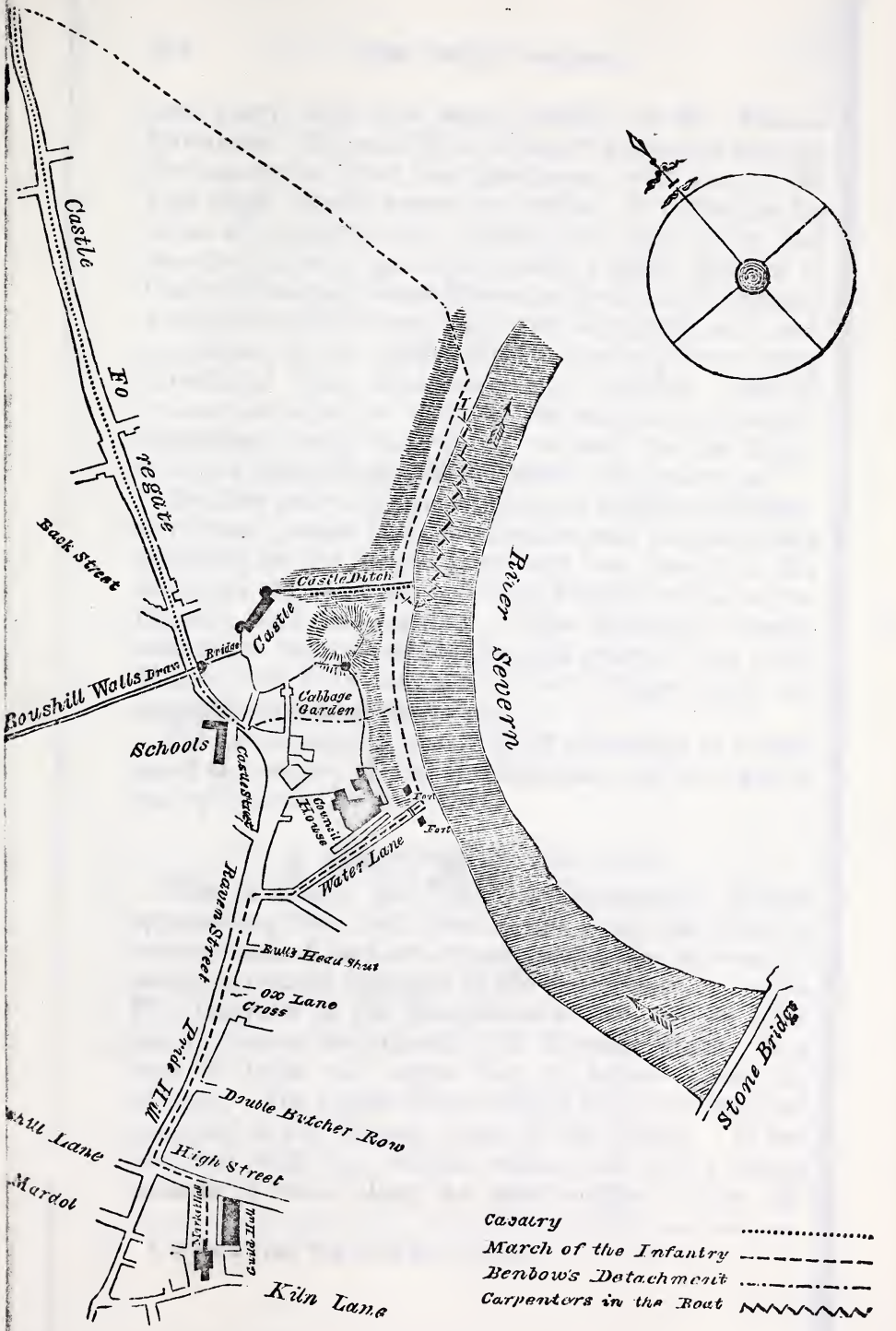
By vertue of his Ma[ts] Comission to mee directed I doe hereby

Constitute and appoynt you, the above named — Geywood, to bee my Corronett of one Troope of horse under my Comaund, hereby requiring all Inferiour offic^rs and souldiers under my Comaund to bee obedient unto you as theire Corronett, and that you carry and demeane yourselfe as Corronett of one Troope of horse as of Right thereunto belongeth.

We have now arrived at a period in the history of Shropshire when there happened an event which, of all others in the course of the Civil War, was the most disastrous and far-reaching, namely, the capture of Shrewsbury by the Parliament. It has been so well told by Owen and Blakeway that it would be presumption on my part to offer a new version of the event. But as those authors confess to have derived their information from the Ottley Papers, which they regretted they had not room to print, it may be well to give them here. A few bearing on the same subject are added from other sources.

As to the agencies at work within the town, which brought about its betrayal, truth compels me to say that a certain number of the Royalists therein contributed to the result. The thraldom the inhabitants were in, under the military rule of foreign officers, the endless exactions wrung from them, and the hopelessness of a better state of things arriving, induced some to reveal the condition of the town to the enemy. Sir William Owen of Condover, a Commissioner of Array, while he was signing warrants in that capacity, and chiefly resident in Shrewsbury, kept up a constant communication with the Parliamentary Commissioners from their earliest establishment in Wem ; and divulged the intended movements of the Royalists.[1] It is even affirmed that he offered them Condover House, "a strong stone building within three Myles distance of Shrewsbury."[2] It was not everyone who could patiently endure the treatment they received from their

[1] Webb's *Civil War in Herefordshire*, i., 383.
[2] *Ibid.* from S. P. 2, xxxi., 169.



PLAN OF THE CAPTURE OF SHREWSBURY, 1645.

own party with the same docility as Mr. Thomas Edwardes. On one of Prince Rupert's journeys through the county, he found that gentleman, who was at the time High Sheriff, somewhat behind in collecting his levies of money for the £9,000 laid upon Salop, and nine troops being quartered within a short distance of Church Stretton, where Edwardes lived, the Prince sent a warrant to him to send the next day £500, and such provisions as he could raise; non-compliance being threatened with displeasure and plunder. All his endeavours failed to make up the amount: a hundred musketeers were accordingly ordered to his house, who, we are told, carried the threat into execution.[1]

But the active movers in the plot to deliver Shrewsbury were certain Parliamentarians, who had been long watching for the opportunity, and now found it in the reduction of the forces by Prince Maurice on his way to Chester, and the inability of the Governor through sickness to keep a sufficiently rigid guard of the town. Mytton was fully informed of how things stood, and promptly embraced the chance.

The accompanying plan will aid the reader to understand the nature of the fortifications, and the way it was approached by the enemy.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN.

Wem is nearly due North of Shrewsbury; a force approaching from that town to this must pass over the narrow neck of land, or isthmus, which lies between the points of nearest approach of the river Severn. In the Plan the river on the East side is shown; on the West side it runs at the extremity of Rowsell Walls. It is easy to trace the entire line of defence across the isthmus. The Castle Ditch started from the river, and extended to the Eastern tower of the Castle. It was deep and wide but without water, and had a strong palisade of wood along its inner margin. From the

[1] Webb's *Civil War in Wales*, i., 383.

Western tower of the Castle a wall ran for a short distance South, and then in a Westerly direction across the main road and so, under the name of Roushill Walls, down to the river. At the place marked on the Plan "Draw-bridge" there was an arched Gateway, flanked by towers, and built of stone. Beneath the arch were strong doors and a portcullis; in front, extending from it down to the river, was a broad deep ditch, containing water, crossed by a draw-bridge. This was called the North, or Castle Gate. A little south of this was a second gate of a similar character, called the Inner, or Burgess Gate. The river entirely surrounds the town, except at this well defended isthmus. There was a bridge crossing the river on the South side, near which the present English Bridge was afterwards built.

All other explanations are sufficiently clear on the Plan itself. (I am indebted to the Manager of the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* for the use of this Plan).

ORDERS DRAWN UP BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE FOR THE TAKING OF SHREWSBURY.

1645.

Wem Feb. 14, 1644

It is this day ordered that Lieutenant-Col. Rinkinge, doe command the partie of horse and foote which shall this night be sent out according to the order of the Commyttee, and that Collonell Mytton, Col. Lloyd, Col. Hunt, and Captayne Robert Clive doe go along with the said party, and that noe one shall have power to give any order for the manageing of the design except the said Leiuetenant-Collonell, without the consent and directions of the gentlemen of the Commytte, which shall go out with him.

AND. LLOYD.
RO. CLIVE.
SAM. MORE.
THOMAS HUNT,
ROBT. CHARLTON.
LEIGH. OWEN.

This is a true copie of the first order, teste Frattinke (?)

Feb. 21st.

It is this day ordered that Leiuetenant-Col. Reinkinge do command the parties upon this present designe, and that he do informe all the souldiers both of horse and foote that in case the designe be effected that £2000 shall be given unto the Staffordshire and Cheshire horse and foote under the command of Colonell Bowyer, and that a like proporcion shal be allowed unto the Shropshire forces under the commande of the Commyttee of this county, and that the said Leiuetenant-Col. may assure all those who shall expresse their valour more particularly than others in attemptinge this design, that they shall have extraordinary satisfaccion, as he shall thinke fitt; and the said Leiutenant-Col. is to give notice that yf any souldier after his entry into the towne of Salop, shall plunder anythinge that such soldier shall not only lose his present reward, but be proceeded agaynst for tryall of his life, accordinge to the marshall law.

And. Lloyd.
Ro. Clive.
Sam. More.
Tho. Hunt.
Robt. Charlton.
Leigh. Owen.

Copia vera concordat cum originali teste Frattinke.
(*Mytton Letters* in the Muniments of Stanley Leighton, Esq. *Vide Montg. Coll.*, vii., 374.)

CCXXVI. THE CAPTURE OF SHREWSBURY.

1644-5.

Abstract from a printed Account
entitled
Shrewsbury taken, published by Order. 1645.

Part of a Letter from the Committee of Shropshire for the Parliament to Sir Will^m^ Brereton, Bart. Commander in Chief of the Cheshire Forces.

We are possessed of Shrewsbury this Morning, we entered Horse and Foot, and all in it, we are now staving of the Soldiers from Plundering. we have not yet time to give you a list of the Prisoners, but many of Quallity, the Governour and Sir John Wylde and his son, with many more. we

beseech you to consider how to Improve this Advantage, and the Destruction the Prince must needs receive by it.

Salop 22d Feb. 1644.

Your Servants &c.
THOMAS MITTON.
SAM[l] MORE.
ROB[t] CHARLTON.
ROB[t] CLIVE.
THOS. HUNT.
LEIGH. OWEN.

The Castle holds out yet for Ought we know.

CCXXVII. THE SHREWSBURY COMMITTEE TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1644-5.

An Extract out of the Letters, Written from the Committees of Shrewsbury to the Speaker of the House of Commons, with the list of the Prisoners.

RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR,

It hath pleased God Miraculously to deliver the Town of Salop into our Hands, with all the Commanders, Officers, and Soldiers therein, a list of the Chief of them we have sent enclosed: upon the 22d of this Month we drew out of our Garrison of Wem, Moreton, and Stoke, 250 Horse and the like Number of Foot, Sir William Brereton having sent us 250 Foot and 350 Horse, which Party, by our Order was Commanded by Lieut[t] Coll: Rincking (in the Marshaling of the design he deserves much Honour) and Captain Wyllier and Master Huson a Minister led on the Firelocks, with 50 Troopers dismounted, under the Command of Lieut[t] Bendebue; they led on their men with undaunted Resolutions after whom followed 350 Foot, which by Severn Side Stormed the Town, near unto the Castle Wall and marched into the Market House, and then Surprised the main Guard, and then sent a Party to Secure the Castle foregate Gate, which was Effected without much Difficulty, and after a quarter of an Hour, the Draw Bridge was let down, and the Gate opened, where Coll Mitton Coll Bowyer and all the Gentlemen of this Committee, with the Horse entered, and imediately became Masters of the Town; Within four Hours after, the Castle was delivered upon Quarter for all but the Irish, to March to Ludlow, and then the Enemy delivered up a Strong out work in Frankwell upon

bare Quarter of their Lives, by 12 o'clock we became Masters of the Castle and Town, wherein were taken many Considerable Prisoners (whereof the names of many are yet unlisted by reason of a want of time to Secure them) good Store of Ammunition and great Store of Ordnance, It was our care to preserve the Town from plundering, but the promises of a large reward would not satisfie the Soldiers, our Horse the Day before had a Long March, they being sent to Surprise S^{r} Will^{m} Whitmore, and S^{r} Tho. Whitmore, his son being a Parliamentary man, which was Effected, and they brought safe to Wem. Sir we shall not trouble you further, but to Subscribe ourselves,

Your most Humble Servants,

Salop.
Feb. 24, 1644.

A. Lloyd.
Tho. Hunt.
Rob, Charleton.

Sam. Moore.
Ro. Clive.
Leigh. Owen.

In this List are inserted the following prisoners, more than those in a former list: —Chas. Smith, Ed. Palmer, Mat: Wightwicke, ancients, Vin. Taylor, Tho: Dewe, Ham: Davies, Rich^{d} Brayne, Serjeant, Nic. Proud, Clerk, Master James Laton, Master Leadall, Moses Hodchkys, George Bucknall, Corporal Patrick Lawry, an Irishman, 49 other Prisoners.

CCXXVIII. ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

1644-5.

Part of a Letter from another Person.

Shrewsbury was taken about 5 o'clock this Morning, the Prisoners are many and considerable and the Prize great; Sir Mich^{l} Ernely, Governour, Sir John Wylde and divers others, The Town is Rich; and its said all the Princes Treasures and carriages were left there. I hope this Victory will be pursued. Feb: 22nd 1644. [1645]

While Prince Maurice was Advancing with his Forces on the Welch side the River Dee, to Relieve Chester, S^{r} Will^{m} Brereton's Forces being all on the North side of the River, on Tuesday Feb. 18th 1644. S^{r} W^{m} Brereton (having received instructions from the Committee of Shropshire of a design which they had against Shrewsbury, therefore desired a Party of his Horse and Foot to join with Col: Mitton), he made no delay, and Col: Bowyer an able Soldier was designed for the Business, under whose command, Sir W^{m} Brereton put four

hundred Cheshire and Staffordshire Horse, three hundred Staffordshire Foot, and a Company of his own Regiment, and sent them on Wednesday the 19th to Wem, well armed and fit for present service, he also sent divers Petars [Petards] and other necessaries for the Storming of Shrewsbury, to break open the Gates, or for the like Service. On Thursday the 20th Col: Mitton with five hundred of the Shropshire Forces met Col. Bowyer with the aforesaid Forces at Wem, their number in all being about twelve Hundred, and there they received instructions from the Committee for carrying on the Business against Shrewsbury, Coll. Mitton himself is one of that Committee, a very gallant Soldier and one that is full of Valour, and Cordial for the Publick good, as appears by all his Actions, having in all that he hath done received but very little pay, yet is not less active in preferring the Publick before his own private Interest. The next day they were designed to March against Shrewsbury, the strongest Garrison in Prince Maurice's Association, and not much inferior to the strongest Garrison the King hath in all England; On Friday the 21st Coll. Mitton and Coll. Bowyer with the said 1200 Forces marched from Wem, They marched all night notwithstanding the coldness of the Season, and the Darkness of the Night; Coll. Mitton led on the Van, And Coll. Bowyer brought up the rear, the Army being drawn into a formidable marching Posture, in which they Marched all Night.

On Saturday, February 22nd 1644 [1645] they drew near to the Enemie's Garrison about 3 or 4 o'the Clock in the morning, Coll. Mitton led on the Horse, and Coll. Reynkings the Foot, and so they marched up to the very Works about 4 o'clock.

At five that Morning Coll. Mitton having passed some of his Foot in Boats on Severn, Commanded by Coll. Reynkings, with Carpenters and others fit for the employment, when they came to the Walls, the Carpenters Sawed down the pallasadoes, and the Soldiers helping one another to get over, slew the Centinels and Surprised the Soldiers in the Court of Guard; from thence they went to the Magazine and the Chief Works possessing themselves of them before they opened the Gates to the rest of the Foot; The Governour and Many of the Great ones were surprised in their Beds: when they had thus made all sure they opened the Castle Gates, and let in all the Horse and the rest of the Foot, the Enemy within, being exceedingly amazed, fled and threw down their Arms, others crying Arm, Arm, which Opportunity our men took, marched in and opened the Gates, thus Horse and foot all entered and with the Spilling of very little Blood gained the Town. When

they had made entrance through the Gate, and Guarded the Town, Our men some went into one Street, and some into another, to Search for the Chief Officers and Soldiers, and great care was taken to get between them and the Castle, they took the Governour and divers other Considerable Men besides other purchase [booty.] The Committee of Wem going along with them, they took great care that those who were well Affected in the Town might not Suffer, and, therefore, the Officers kept off the Soldiers from plundering the Town, that so the Committee might see right done, and none but Malignants Suffer.

Cruelly had the good people been long handled by the Cavaliers in that Place, so were not a little glad that Coll. Mitton had taken it.

The Committee gave notice hereof to S^{r} W^{m} Brereton, who took care to have Forces lye near them, to releive Coll: Mitton, if Occasion should be.

The whole Country desire that Coll. Mitton should be made Governour, who is an Honest, Cordial, well Affected man of true Integrity.

About 12 o'clock at Noon the same Day was the Castle surrendered upon Condition that the Officers and Soldiers therein should March away with their Arms, and leave the Ammunition in the Castle, and all the Officers and Soldiers in the Town behind them, but there were many Papists, and some Notable Agents, that fled and ran away as soon as they heard that our Forces had made entrance.

A List of Particulars taken at Shrewsbury by Coll: Mitton on Saturday Feb. 22^{d} 1644.

Eight Baronets and Knights.
Forty Collonels, Majors, Captains, and others of Quality.
Two Hundred other Prisoners.
One Captain and five Soldiers slain.
Fifteen pieces of Ordnance taken.
Many hundred of Arms.
Divers Barrels of Gunpowder.
Prince Maurice's Magaziene.
The Town and Castle and all the Worke.
Divers Carriages and Baggage of the Prince.
Besides other Prisoners, and purchase [booty] not yet Discovered.
We Lost only two men.

For the Nominal Roll of prisoners the reader should consult Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury.*

Sir Richard Cave's letter to Prince Rupert, which follows, is interesting in this connection. (The date is erroneous.)

May it please your Highness,

I intended to have made use of Major Fox's and Sir William Russell's Horse, quartered near Shrewsbury, to go through to your brother; but, half way there, I met those Horse coming this way, who told me the sad news of the loss of Shrewsbury, which they say was betrayed by the townsmen. There are some gentlemen come hither who were there after the town was entered. Amongst others, Major Butler, in coming he escaped after he was hurt. The Castle is yet held by the Governor; but, as they say, not at all provided with victuals. I wish your brother had some experienced commanders by him. I do not hear of any one but old Roan. And now, I neither know myself, nor can I learn from others, how I may possibly pass to your brother. I mean, God willing, instantly to hire messengers at any price, to go to his Highness. I have spoken with Sir Robert Howard, and some other gentlemen. They are agreed to use their power in raising the country, if any considerable number come together, I will wait upon the gentlemen, with such as will follow them to Shrewsbury. It may work something if the Castle can but hold out, as I hope it will.

I have not time to write in ciphers. If I had, I should say more; for all, besides this, is not so well as I could wish, nor yet, I hope, so bad as some would make me believe. I shall adventure my letters to your brother to that purpose, as your Highness commanded me. I am much unsatisfied in their stay there where they are.

I am Sir
Your Highness' most humble devoted Servant

Ludlow Feb. 15. 1645. RICHARD CAVE.[1]

Sir Francis Ottley happened to be away from Shrewsbury at the time it was taken; but he was none the less unfortunate, for, being engaged near the same date, in raising forces for Prince Maurice, in the Hundred of Brimstree, in company with Sir William Whitmore, Sir Thomas Whitmore (his son), Mr. Owen,

[1] Warburton's *Prince Rupert*, iii., 59.

Mr. Fowler, Mr. Griffiths, and other Commissioners of Array sitting at Apley Park, they were all surprised and taken prisoners by Sir John Preen, one of Brereton's officers. The Prince had a very narrow escape on the same occasion.

The next letter does not relate to Shropshire, though none the less interesting from its being addressed to Colonel William Salusbury, whom I conceive to be none other than the celebrated *Hosannau gleision* (Blue Stockings), the brave and persistent defender of Denbigh Castle. As it would appear, the Colonel had left his command to attend upon Prince Maurice at Worcester, with a regiment of horse, and Jonathan Edwards, whom I take to be his chaplain, feels it to be his duty to send the Colonel a candid letter on the state of the garrison.

Jonathan Edwards was the third son of John Edwards of Wrexham, co. Denbigh. He matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, 3 February, 1632, aged 18; took his B.A. 9 June, 1634; M.A. 24 April, 1637; created B.D. November, 1642; and was appointed Rector of Cathedine, co. Brecon.

CCXXIX. JONATHAN EDWARDS TO COLONEL SALUSBURY.

[?] 1644-5.

S^r^

The Oppertunity of this Messenger to carry, and my hope that you are at Worcester to receave, this letter emboldens mee to present my service unto you, and acquaynt you with the receipt of some l'rs sent to you from the Countrey, which I durst not send unto you, lest they might miscarry by your removal (for I am not certayn whether this shall have the happines to come to your hands) or Absence from Worcester. I will keep them till I see or have directon from you. For newes from Court I refer you to the worthy bearer sergeant Littleton (Hee can pleasure you with more Certayne Intelligence than I can).

At the Leaguer all in general are as well as pilgrims, or an unsettld Colonye can bee. The sight doth often remember mee what our fore fathers estate was, and what Christians estate should be thought; never a clearer argument was presented

to mine Eyes that they did, and wee doe, dwell in houses of Clay.

From your Owne Regiment, give my Affection and duty leave to acquaynt you that they are not very well Contented with your Absence; they say they wonder if they onely should bee thought worthy to bee neglected and left desolate and like that beast they fight against, without a head. They Suspect their worth and Service, and are sorry if after so much travell and hazard and widowship endured, they should still keep together to have a few horse untryed, they say not unworthy (that as yet must bee testified by their succesful valour) preferred and followed before them. That they find not your promise performed that they should go no further than your selfe went and that you would not leave them for any interest: when they Conceave diverse pretences have been sought and invented to separate and keep you from them. These murmurings are the same they daily vent, and if your returne doth not prevent it you shall find them executed and burned to a Desolation; your regiment will bee so thin that you will hardly conceave them a Commanded Company of your former Regiment which in your absence is likelyer to fall in, if your Major leaves you to bee Leift: Colonel in the Western Expedition.

My nature was never so servile as to flatter, and my engagement to you to great to Conceale from you what concerns your Reputation, and therefore I must and will take the Boldness to tell, you are strangely [*sic*] Censured for quitting the Command of such a regiment to follow a single troop (for that you wayted on Prince Maurice excuses not with many). You know best what is at stake, and I am assured your Judegment will direct you to Pursue your honour, and I hope your nobleness will pardon my boldnes in acquainting you with what I am sorry to heare, and should bee more sorry to see. With my prayers to God for your health and safe (and I hope) sudden returne, I rest, Sir,

Y'rs as I am Obliged to serve you

To the Hon^ble^ Colonel
Salusbury, these.

JONATH: EDWARDS.

Some time within the interval of five months which had elapsed since Sir Francis was taken prisoner, and the date of the next letter, he had succeeded in obtaining his liberty.

CCXXX. PRINCE MAURICE'S ORDER TO GOVERNORS AND GARRISONS TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1645.

Ffor as much as S^r^ Ffrancis Oateley Knight high Sherriffe for the County of Salop is, by Speciall direction from his Ma^ty^ to raise the Posse of that County and to perform other Services of great and weighty Concernment whereby hee will bee required in discharge of his duty to bee in severall parts of that County, And to the end hee may bee well accomodated w^th^ quarter befitting his Quallity, and Employment, These are to will & require you to provide & furnish the said S^r^ Ffrancis Oately Kn^t^ and his Retinue with good Quarters during his residence in your Garrison for dispatch of his Ma^ts^ Affayres, Hereof you may in noe wise fayle Given att Worcester this

24^th^ day of July 1645.
To all Govern^rs^ of Garrisons
Officers Quarter M^rs^ & others
whom it doth or may Concerne.

About the 30th of July, the Scottish army had entered Herefordshire, and was approaching the capital under David Lesley, Earl of Leven. Immediate steps were taken to raise the *posse comitatus*, with a view of relieving Hereford. The effort ended in failure. The country was tired of war.[1] The following is a copy of a letter addressed to the county by Sir Barnabas Scudamore, the High Sheriff.

CCXXXI. RAISING THE POSSE COMITATUS IN HEREFORDSHIRE.

1645.

A Coppie of the l're from ye H. Sheriff and Govr'ne' both of the Cittie and County of Hereff. declaring his resolucon in Raysing ye posse of ye County.

It beinge with greate and serious deliberacon consulted and advised of, by ye gentlemen of this County now resident in and abouts this Cittie, and p'sonally active in his Ma'ts p'sent service, how the best and rediest way might bee for the effecting of his Ma'ts Comaunds, and ye Advanceinge ye true p'testant Religion, the safetie of this County, ye freeing themselves from ye slavery of ye Scotch, who doe now invade this

[1] Gardiner, ii., p. 285.

County with a powerful Armie, They have therefore for ye preventing of this soe greate a dainger and ruine to this Kingdome, unanimously joyned together as one man, and have to that end envited you and the rest of the gentrie of this Countie, with their sonnes and servants to bee in ye best equipance you cann both with horse and Armes at ye generall meeting on Thursday next in Wigmarsh-sho by Tenn of the Clocke in ye morning being the last of this instant July, where wee shall meete with you and resolve of a speedy course for ye ffreeing our selves from this distraction now likely to fall upon us, and that none may pretend excuse in this greate tyme of necessitie for conveninge upon that day I doe further declare unto you ye intencons and resolucons of these gentlemen, that whosoever shall absent himselfe from that appearance (if not proved on oath to bee sicke or debillitated by age or some warrantable or just excuse not only for his absence out of this County, but from ye place of meeting), shalbe esteemed a newtrall and disloyall Subject, and remembered to all a disafected p'son to ye safety and welfare of this County, in which hee must expect noe long existence, And that there might bee a cleare understanding of this theire resolucon, it is desired by them that all private differences whatsoever may bee layd aparte, and that wee joyne together unanimously in soe good and pious a woorke, I shall not faile my selfe with ye best power I have to attend you there, and doe further engadge my selfe unto you (having recentment of the everlasting dishonor which wilbe recorded upon this nation if ye Scotch prevaile) that to the best of my skill and power I will live and die a servante to my Country and a true affectionate friend to all that shall joyne herein, This is a dutie befitts mee in a business of soe high a nature. I am desired to publish unto you they discerning ye small effects which ensue by his Ma'ts Comaund for summoninge ye Posse And therefore doe resolve with ye assistance of God to goe through with this woorke, whereunto wee expect your utmost endeavours, and alsoe that you will prompte it to all ye rest of your Gentlemen your Neighbours. And soe I rest:

Your asured Loving friend
and Servaunte.
[Barnabus Scudamore].

CCXXXII. COMMISSIONERS OF ASSOCIATION

1645.

For our honored Freinds S^r^ Francis Oatley, K^t^ high Sheriff of ye County of Salop, S^r^ Thomas Woolrich S^r^ Edward Acton

and Sr Thomas Edwards and ye rest of ye Comissioners of ye Association for ye County of Salop.

GENTLEMEN.

It hath pleased his Matie uppon ye humble Desire of ye Gentree of this Countie of Stafford to comand that ye Comission of Association should bee wth all dilligence put in execution conceaving it the fittest redresse for the greevances of each Countie, & ye procuring of a happy Peace. His Matie hath comaunded Sr Robert Howard, Sr William Russell & Sr Walter Pye, to stay behind him & attend uppo' the service as well heere as in theire owne Cuntrys: Wee are confident of yor concurrence to prepare yor Cuntrie for his Maties service & theire owne safeties & uppon notice from you that you desire any of or assistance wee shalbee ready to waite uppo' you as

Lichfeild 16th August 1645

Yor assured freinds & servants

Sr Edward Acton and other Gent of yor Countie are put into ye Comission of Association. Mr Weaver can give you there names.

H. Archbold
Salop.

LOUGHBOROUGH
WA: ASTON
RO: HOWARD
WILL: RUSSELL
T. BAGOT ROBERT WOLSLEY
JOHN HARPUR
RIC. DYOS
GEORGE DIGBY. WAL PYE.

HENRY HASTINGS, LORD LOUGHBOROUGH.— On June 17th, 1645 (three days after the battle of Naseby) he surrendered Leicester to the Parliamentary army, which had been taken and sacked by Rupert only eighteen days previously. The next day he retired to Ashby Castle, which was closely besieged. On the 28th of February following (1646), articles of agreement were entered into between Col. Hastings, Governor of Ashby, and Col. Needham, Governor of Leicester, for the surrender and sleighting of Ashby Castle. Hastings was to leave Ashby (after the sleighting) and march to Bridgnorth or Worcester, with colours, trumpets, and drums, &c. In November, 1648, Parliament ordered that Ashby Castle should be demolished. Hastings survived the Protectorate, and on the Restoration was made Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire. He then lived

at Loughborough House, Lambeth. His will, dated 1 August, 1665, was proved P.C.C. 15 and 18 May, 1667 (62 Carr). He died, unmarried, in January, 1666, and was buried in St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, near the body of his great-uncle, Edward, Lord Loughborough. [W. G. D. F.].

Sir Walter Aston, the eldest son of Sir Walter Aston of Tixall, co. Stafford, K.B. and Bart., and created Lord Aston of Forfar 1628, and died 1639, by his wife Gertrude, daughter of Sir Thomas Sadler of Standon, co. Herts. He succeeded as 2nd Bart. and Peer, and inherited Standon under the will of his uncle, Ralph Sadler, Esq., in 1660. He was a staunch and gallant supporter of the royal cause during the Civil Wars. He married in 1629, Mary, second daughter of Richard, Lord Weston, Lord High Treasurer of England, Earl of Portland, K.G. He died 23 April, 1678, leaving four sons and five daughters. (Burke's *Extinct Peerage*, *Vis. Staff.*, 1663). [W. G. D. F.].

Sir William Russell, of Strensham, co. Worcester, 1st Baronet, Governor of Worcester, (see LXII. note). He married Frances, daughter of Sir Thomas Read, of Brockett Hall, co. Herts, Knt., and had eight sons and three daughters. He died 30th November, 1669, and was buried at Strensham, where is a monument to his memory, on which is a long inscription, of which this forms a part:—

> Vir fuit . . . . egregia erga regem temporibus
> iniquissimis fide nec capitis periculo, nec
> magna rei familiaris jactura unquam concussus.

H. Bagot. Hervey Bagot, born 8th February, 1590. Created Bart. 30th May, 3 Charles I. Died 27th Dec., 1652. Married 1st, Catherine, daughter of Humphrey Adderley, of Weddington; and secondly, Anne, daughter of Sir Clement Fisher, of Packington, Knight, and widow of Sir Thomas Dilke, of Maxstoke, Knt,, and had five sons. He was son of Walter Bagot, of Blythfield, by Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Cave, of Stamford, Esq. (See *Vis. Staff.*, 1663). [W. G. D. F.]

Sir Robert Wolseley, Bart. Son of John Wolseley of Morton, co. Stafford, by Isabell, daughter of John Porter, of Stallington, co. Staff.; created a Baronet 24th Nov., 1628; married Mary, daughter of Sir George Wroughton, of Wilcot, co. Wilts, and had issue three sons and three daughters. Clerk to the Patent Office in Chancery. (See *Vis. Staff.*, 1663). [W. G. D. F.].

Sir John Harpur, of Calke, co. Derby, 2nd Baronet, son of Sir John Harpur, of Calke, 1st Baronet, by Barbara, daughter of Anthony Faunt, of Foston, co. Leicester, Esq. He was Sheriff of Derbyshire in 1640; married Susan West, and died cir. 1669, aged 53. (Glover's *Derbyshire*, vol. ii., p. 185). [W. G. D. F.].

Sir Richard Dyot, Knight, son and heir of Anthony Dyot, Esq., by Catharine, daughter of John Harcourt, of Rownton Abbey, co. Stafford, Esq., "one of the councell to King Charles I., in his Court at York, for the northern part of his realme; Chancellor to the Bishop of Durham for that county palatine, and steward of this city" (*i.e.* Lichfield). He married Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Richard Donnington, of Stafford, and had issue six sons. St. Mary's Register, Lichfield, says: "1659-60, Mar: 8. Sir Rd. Dyot, Knt. *bur.*" The *Visitation of Stafford*, 1663, says, he "*died* 8 Martii 1659," from which it might be inferred that he died, and was buried the same day.

George Digby, of Sandon, co. Stafford, Esq., 2nd son of Everard Digby, of Tilton, co. Leicester, Esq., by Mary, daughter and heiress of Francis Neale, of Prestwold, co. Leicester, Esq. He bought Sandon from his half-brother, Sampson Erdeswich of Sandon; married Mary, daughter of Sir Walter Chetwynd, of Ingestre, co. Stafford, Knt., and had a son who died an infant, and four daughters, of whom the only surviving one, Jane, married Charles Lord Gerard. (*Vis. Staff.* 1663). He paid for his composition £1440.

Henry Archibold, of Lichfield, Esq., L.L.D., Registrar and Chancellor to the Bishop of Lichfield and

Coventry; was knighted at Whitehall, 21st November, 1670. He paid for his composition £186 10s.

Sir Walter Pye, of the Mynd, co. Hereford, was the eldest son of Sir Walter Pye, of the same place, Attorney of the Court of Wards, to whose memory there is a monument in the church of Much Dewchurch, in which parish the Mynd is situated; but where the son was buried is unknown. When the Parliament began to issue commissions of Lords-Lieutenants and Deputy-Lieutenants, independent of the King, Sir Walter Pye was appointed one of the latter for co. Bedford, instead of Hereford, where he resided, and where his property and influence were greater, a stroke of policy, it is thought, by which to divert his influence in another direction. But he took the earliest opportunity, in common with the leading gentry of Herefordshire, of declaring for the King, who appointed him a Commissioner of Array, and to the command of a regiment. When Waller laid siege to Hereford, in 1643, which surrendered on the 24th of April, Sir Walter Pye, with others, was taken prisoner, and conveyed to Bristol, and confined to the castle, but regained his liberty in the following June. His name appears in the list of persons who were at Oxford when the articles of surrender were agreed upon, June 22nd, 1646, and desired and obtained four letters for compounding for his estates, in the counties of Bucks, Hereford, Brecknock and Radnor. His moated residence, a few miles from Hereford, being capable of defence, was garrisoned by Sir Barnabas Scudamore, at an early date, but does not appear to have played any noticable part in the war.

Captain George Mainwaring, mentioned in the following order of Prince Rupert, was the third son of Sir George Mainwaring, of Ightfield, co. Salop, Knt., and brother of Sir Arthur Mainwaring, of the same place, carver to the Prince of Wales. Tong Castle was twice occupied by the Royalists, on the second occasion, April 5th, 1644. From the letter below, it appears that

Captain Mainwaring's command did not begin till the 18th July, in that year, and ended with October 31st. This last date appears to be inconsistent with Symmons's statement, that Tong was burnt by the Prince when he drew out the garrison to the battle of York, which was in May. It was Capt. Mainwaring's misfortune to be taken prisoner at the capture of Shrewsbury, and we hear nothing more about him till this mention of him by the Prince. He was admitted of Brazenose College, Oxford, Nov. 19, 1602, æt. 15.

CCXXXIII. PRINCE RUPERT'S ORDER TO PAY CAPTAIN G. MAINWARING'S ARREARS.

1645.

GENTLEMEN

Itt is knowne to you that Captaine George Mainwaring, A Gentleman of yo^{r} owne Countrey did some time Com'and in cheife att Tongue Castle, And itt is by him signified to me that, in Regard there was noe Established pay for the com'and, He was & still is unrecompenced for his Services, I Desire you that he be paid out of the next contribucon comeing to the Garrison of Bridge North, after the proportion of five poundes a week for the time of his Continuance in that Com'and, being from the 18th of July to the last of October 1644, By which he may be Encouraged and Enabled to apply himself to his Ma^{ts} farther Service, either in your parts, or where else he shall be Required,

Worcester 3to Dec^{r} 1645. I rest

Yo^{r} Freind

RUPERT.

Ffor the Gentlemen, Com^{rs} of the Countie of Salop, Resident in Bridgenorth, these.

CCXXXIV. EDWARD OWEN TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1645.

SIR

You must needs forgive me if I be troublesome unto you in desireing some releife from you after my long imprison-

ment, what you can conveniently spare I desire may be sent me by this bearer, and I shall ever remain

Stafford the 1° Your humble Servant
Oct: 1645 EDW: OWEN.

To my most honored
Friend S^r^ Francis Ottley Knt.
and Coll:
these present.

The writer of the above was Lieut.-Colonel Edward Owen, second son of Sir William Owen of Condover, Knt., by his wife Ellena, daughter of Sir Robert Needham of Shavington, Knt. He was born 15 May, 1623, and must have obtained through his family influence rapid promotion to have been a Lieut.-Colonel so young. He was the "Ned Owen" whom Tom Eyton tells us (Letter LIV.) lost some of his men at Whitchurch in 1643, when the Roundheads from Nantwich sent out a force to beat up their quarters. He married Martha, daughter of Thomas Owen of Salop, relict of Edward Leighton of Wattlesborough. He was made prisoner at the taking of Shrewsbury, and had remained so up to the date of this letter. The sum he paid for his composition was £207.

There are but few events to record in the military history of Shropshire during the past year. After Shrewsbury was secured by the Parliament army, vigorous efforts were made by it to reduce the smaller Royal garrisons. Siege was laid to High Ercall, but after continuing a fortnight, the attempt was abandoned, not before they had sustained serious losses. It was a strongly built residence, enclosed by a broad moat, and held with great gallantry by the defenders. April 17th, they lost Longford House, a seat of the Earl of Shrewsbury, taken by Prince Rupert. On the 24th, Col. Birch invested Ludlow, but in a short time withdrew without accomplishing anything. On the 7th May, the King left Oxford, with about 11,000 men, and passed through Droitwich on his way towards Chester. He slept at Chetwynd, the seat of the Pigotts, on the

[illegible] that you can occasionally spare I desire may be sent me by this bearer and I will ever remaine

Shelford this 3d [illegible] Your assured Servant
Nov. 1646 [illegible] Owen.

To my much honored
Friend Mr [illegible] Esq.
[illegible]
these present.

The writer of the above was [illegible] Owen, second son of Sir William Owen of Condover, Knt., by his wife [illegible], daughter of Sir [illegible] of [illegible], Knt. He was born [illegible], and must have [illegible] during the [illegible] He was the "Red Owen" [illegible] Eyton [illegible] in 1644, when the [illegible] He married Martha, daughter of [illegible] of Salop, [illegible] He was made prisoner at the taking of Shrewsbury, [illegible]

There are but few events of interest in the [illegible] history of Shropshire during the year [illegible]. After Shrewsbury was [illegible] by the Parliament [illegible] Royal garrisons. [illegible] High Ercall, [illegible] It was a strongly built [illegible] and held with great gallantry by the [illegible] April 1646, [illegible] On the [illegible] May, the King left Oxford, [illegible] and passed through [illegible] on the [illegible]

20th, situated about two miles from Newport. Two rooms that he occupied are still shown in the older portion of the house, one of which looks out upon the Churchyard. On the 21st, while the army was resting after the long marches, a force under Sir Marmaduke Langdale, Major General, was despatched by night to surprise Wem, and said to have had but 150 men in it, but the enterprise was a failure. The King proceeded to Drayton, and while here, news arrived on the 22nd that Brereton, alarmed at the approach of the Royal army, had withdrawn from before Chester. This induced the King to alter his course into Staffordshire. The Parliament forces at Shrewsbury were more successful in some of their other attempts to reduce the petty garrisons. On the 8th of June, they captured Stokesay Castle, which belonged to Lord Craven, situated at the junction of several roads, commanding an important position. On the 23rd, Caus Castle surrendered to them, and on the 29th, Shrawardine Castle. A fortnight before this date the battle of Naseby was fought, in which the King's army was defeated, and his correspondence seized. On the 8th July, Lilleshall House was taken by the Parliament, and High Ercall was again beset, but they were routed by Colonel Vaughan, and Maurice states that "in their retreat the Parl. forces burnt Routon and Shraden Castles," by which he must mean *after* their retreat, as neither of these places lies between High Ercall and Shrewsbury.

On the 7th of August, the King, on his way from Brecknockshire and Radnorshire, was again in this county; and finally in September, after the Battle of Rowton Heath.

The only garrisons remaining to the King were Ludlow, Bridgnorth and High Ercall.

1646.

Sir Jacob Asteley, created a Baron Nov., 1644, was the son of Isaac Asteley of Melton Constable, Norfolk, and commenced his military training in the Netherlands.

He took up the royal cause in the Civil War with great zeal; was wounded at Edgehill; present at the siege of Gloucester, where he commanded a division, and when Essex, after relieving that city had fought the battle of Newbury (20th Sept., 1643), and had continued his retreat to London, Sir Jacob possessed himself of Reading. In 1644 he assisted Lord Hopton in the capture of Arundel, and shared in the defeat of Alresford 29th March. In the second battle of Newbury (27th Oct.) Asteley commanded the infantry in the King's escape from Oxford, when the army of Essex and Waller were closing on the city. At Naseby (14th June, 1645) the main body of the foot was led by Lord Asteley. He was routed at Stow-in-the-Wold, 21st March, 1646, where he made his memorable remark to his captors, some of whom brought the old soldier a drum to sit upon: "You have now done your work and may go to play, unless you will fall out among yourselves." At the time of writing these letters that follow he was endeavouring to raise forces for the relief of Chester, and to set in order the few disorganised garrisons that remained to the King in Shropshire. But the game was virtually played out, and neither courage nor skill could recover the lost fortune of the King. Lord Asteley died in 1652, at the age of 73.[1]

CCXXXV. LORD ASTELEY TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1645-6.

GENTLEMEN

I have received both yo^{rs} of the 7th & 8th of this instant, & am very sorry that I can meet with no Guarison free from such like distempers; I wonder not a little that S^{r} Lewis Kirke should expresse such violence, & oppose o^{r} directions concerning Mr. Andrewes, & have the Guarison in such disorder; for the present I can say little, but pray yo^{r} most vigilent care & circumspection in preservation of the place, the enemy being busy, & having Designes upon that & every Guarison here-

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[1] *Dict. Nat. Biog., &c.*

abouts. And I shall make all possible speed to yo^{u} that I can, in the interim I rest.

Gentlemen

10th Jan^{ry} 1645. Yo^{r} faithfull freind & humble servt

JACOB ASTELEY.

For my honoured freind
S^{r} ffrancis Oately High Sherriff[1] of Salop & others
his Ma^{ts} Com'issioners for the County at Bridgnorth.

CCXXXVI. LORD ASTELEY TO THE SAME.

1645-6.

NOBLE SIR

I am through the various distempers in all these Guarisons enforced (as you see) to travell upp & downe to put them in a posture of defence, & compose the differences occasioned amongst the Governo^{rs} & those who relate to the Guarison. This travellinge hath drayned my purse, so that I must request yo^{r} furtherance in collecting & preparinge for mee, against my coming to Bridgnorth my allowance for my subsistance: I shall make all possible speed to yo^{u}, in the mean while I doubt not of yo^{r} Assistance to my request, & best care of his Ma^{ts} service, and so wishinge a good meeting I rest

Lichfeild 10th Jan 1645 Yo^{r} Most humble Serv^{t}

JACOB ASTELEY

For my honoured freind
S^{r} Francis Oateley K^{t} High Sherife of
the County of Salop these.

CCXXXVII. NICHOLAS ANNOVER TO THE SAME.

1645-6

S^{r}

I understand that one Thomas Powell souldier under Captaine Whiniard [or Whimard] hath taken away a bay mare of Rowland Malkin of Kenlye, one of my Lord Newport's tennants, whoe payes his contribusion to Bridgnorth; my request unto you is that you would be favourably pleased to cause the Souldier to restore the Mare to the owner, hee being

[1] No new Sheriff had been appointed by the King in the place of Sir Francis Ottley. The Parliament at Westminster re-appointed Mytton the 25th September, 1645, for this year.

a man altogether unable to bear such losses; this being graunted I will oblidge my selfe to remaine

High Ercall[1] 15 Jan. 1645. Yo'r humble servant
NICHOLAS ANNOVER

To the right wor'll & his
honourd ffriend S^r^ ffrancis Oateley Knt,

CCXXXVIII. LORD ASTELEY TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGNORTH.

1645-6.

GENTLEMEN

I have received an Express lately from my Lord Byron declaringe the great extremity Chester is reduced unto; & I have received severall Com'ands from his Ma^tie^ to endeav^r^ the raysing of the seidge, and render that citty relieſe. I have sent unto all Guarisons adjacent to supply all horse & foote that can be spared w^th^ safety to them. I have appointed the Rendesvous of all the forces that can be raysed at Bridgnorth the 27^th^ of this instant; I shall desire yo^u^ also that yo^u^ would prepare all the horse & foote that possibly may be spared out of Bridgnorth (w^ch^ I hope will bee 100 Horse & 60 foote at Least:) to be in readinesse to march at the time appointed. My Lo. of Ormond writes that upon the first Westerly Winds (w^ch^ happened yesterday) he had in readiness to transport fro' Ireland 3000 foote well armed, I am also promised 800 horse & foote in North Wales by the Lord Byron; I shall hope by this means to doe the worke, and doubt not but every man of honour will contribute their best Assistance herein. I desire also yo^u^ would advance them 14 days paye for their relieſe or Victuals at least. I suppose to see yo^u^ before that time, not doubting of yo^r^ vigellence & care in all things I rest

Gentlemen
Yo^r^ Most humble servant

17 January 1645. JACOB ASTELEY.

CCXXXIX. LORD ASTELEY TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1645-6.

S^r^

I receaved y^r^ Lre and intend, God willinge, to be with you at Bridgnorth upon ffryday next where I shall endeavour what I can to settle all distractions, and to that purpose have

[1] It capitulated to the Parliament in the March following.

sent to Ludlowe for them there to meete, I shall desire yo^{r} selfe and the rest that they will p'vide good accommodations of p'visions and Quarters against the 27th of this Month, for the Generall Rendevous at Brignorth; the number will bee two thousand horse and fifteen hundred foote. I shall also desire you will Against that tyme p'vide the moneyes due for my entertaynment for then I shall have great occasion to use the same. And so expecting yo^{r} dilligence and care therein I rest

Dudley Castle 20th Januarie 1645

Yo^{r} very loveing frend
JACOB ASTELEY.

You are in the meane tyme to p'vide for Colonel Moulsworth and his Companie.

ffor ffrancis Ottley Knight High Sheriffe of the Countie of Salop.

Richard Wicksted, Clerk in Holy Orders, son of Thomas Wicksted of Shrewsbury, was born in that town, and baptized at St. Chad's, April 16th, 1619; admitted of Shrewsbury School, June 6th, 1631, at the age of 12. He married Sarah Lutwich, daughter of Edward Lutwich, Esq. (who died 1638), at Bridgnorth, Jany. 20th, 1639. Of his university course and early preferments, I have found no account, but he appears as Rector of Harley in 1650, where his wife died, and was buried August 28th, 1652. He survived her seven years, and was buried at the same place Nov. 19th, 1659. At the time of writing the two letters, he was under arrest at Ludlow for not having paid his arrears of money levied on him in the Hundred of Condover, Harley being in the Cound division of that Hundred. He appears to have remained in Ludlow till March 13th, 1646-7, for at that date he was admitted a Burgess of the town, if it be the same person; and the town being then in the hands of the Parliament points to his having a leaning to Puritanism. During the Commonwealth, his son Richard was apprenticed to Rowland Jenks, of Shrewsbury, Apothecary, for seven years, commencing in 1658, the year before the death of his father. In the Roll of the Ironmongers' Company, with which the Apothecaries were associated, the father

is described as "Richard Wicksteed, Minister of God's word at Harly." The son obtained his Freedom in 1665, and received apprentices of the same name, and presumably connexions of his family, from Cheshire, and the north part of Shropshire.

CCXL. RICHARD WICKSTED TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1645-6.

NOBLE SIR

After the presentation of my humble Service—It is the time wherein I beseech you to be active both for myself and Neighbours for our enlargement; which we shall not easily procure but by my Lord Ashley [*sic*], whose expectation here we are glad to hear of, and desire it may be speedily found by us: His Ma^ties^ order hath been read to us by S^r^ Tho: Edwards, wherein it appears that some Suggestion hath been made of the contribution of Condover Hundred that it hath been paid formerly to this Garrison; but what truth there is in that you very well know; upon that Order we are detained, and without the payment of the Money (which we cannot doe) we have no hope of liberty: what is remaining unpaid to you of the Arrears, if you send your discharge I shall not fail to give you content; for it seemeth by some whom I have used to sound S^r^ Michael Woodhouse, that he will not demand the same twice, if paid to you: and yet some who have paid you all do nevertheless find small effect of that Speech: S^r^ be you pleased to use your power with my Lord Ashley to right yourself and your Garrison; and I doubt not but S^r^ Lewis Kirke and the Gentlemen whom it concerneth in your Garrison will Assist you, for mine own part I cannot obey his Ma^ties^ command in sticking to my place if this course be held, for I have scarce bread to maintain myself my wife and family; Lieut^nt^ Col: Slaughter hath shewed himself an honest Gent: in writing to S^r^ W^m^ Vaughan of this Business: we as yet know not what it will work: but however it is I will be faithfull to you in the cause, and will suffer much, that I may show myself to be Sir

Your poor Neighbour
but true Servant

Ludlow Jan^ry^ 21° 1645 RI: WICKSTED.

Col: D'avilier cometh upon us for Horse and Arms, which I believe are to be raised for you, not for him, as is pretended; I

pray let your Servant Ned Evans send a copy hither to us of your Warrant.

For the R^{t} Wor^{ll} my much honor^{d}
S^{ir} Francis Ottley Kn^{t} high Sherriff of
the County of Salop p^{r}sent these
wth speed.

CCXLI. RICHARD WICKSTED TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY. 1645-6.

Noble S^{r}.

Since my last of yesterday; I find, and it is feared amongst us, that the hundred of Condover wilbe called upon to make up the summ of £200 which Sir M: Woodhouse saith he lent to Prince Maurice, and had power given him to levy it upon the Country; but I see no order for it, nor when it is to be levied; if anie where, it is probable that it is to be done in those places which are under the Contribucon of Ludlow, which Condover hundred never was: Anie pretence will serve to charge us, and to keep us poore: But, Sir, it is my humble suite to your selfe, to S^{r} Lewis Kirke, and S^{r} Ed: Acton, with the rest, that for my owne particular you will procure from my Lo: Ashley's hand my discharge hence: and for Horse and Armes to use your power in exempting mee from the disposall of Col: D'avelier; for I rather desire what is to be done to be accountable to you: I am verei sorrie to hear how Pitchford hath been used this last march, I trust the Generall will regulate those or else his Ma'tie will find much disservice from the Country, as is to be feared: Let me crave the favour to keepe these and my last lines to your selfe; that I may not be open to them here for advertisement. S^{r} I humbly take my leave, and pray for your health, and success in your affairs.

Ludl[ow] Yo'r servant
Jan: 22° Ri: Wi[cksted]'
1645.

I pray doe me that noble favour when you report my case to the Governour to present my service to him and the rest of the Gent: Mr Latham will doe mee anie favour he can, I am confident of it.

We poore ministers must petition his Ma'tie's protection, or wee are lost.

For the R^{t} wor'll my much honoured
Sir ffran: Ottley, Knt. at Brignorth, p'sent these.
with my humble service.

CCXLII. SIR THOMAS EDWARDES TO THE SAME.

1645-6.

SIR

ffor your busines w'th Devillier as I tould you in my last, soe I might iterate his Neglect. I have solicited daily to have his Warr[ants] sent forth, but to this hower cannot gett them, hee shuffles it to the Go^r^ that hee doth oppose them as a hinderance of his contributons, and yet I call upon him, and have promised that hee will Collect the money and use the first that comes in; you shalbee assured of Intelligence. I know you have heard Counj'tures of the party which were at Pitchford and those parts; Mary Griffithes hath byne w'th mee, and shee will give you an account of her & my endevors on your behalfe;[1] I lately suffered from Bromcroft Castle, the Lo: deliver us out of the hands of these Oppressors. With my hearty Respects to my good sister, & sweete cousins & my blessing to my daughter I rest

Ludlow Jan: 22 1645

Yo^r^ brother & servant
THO: EDWARDES.[2]

ffor S^r^ ffrancis Ottley
Knt. high Sheriffe of
Shropshire these.

The family of Cressett, which gave its name to Upton Cressett, a manor about four miles west of Bridgnorth, was at a previous date seated at Little Withiford. William Cressett, the earliest mentioned of the family, had a son Thomas, who lived in the reign of Edward II., and married the daughter of John, Lord of Upton, in consequence of which, his grandson, Hugh Cressett, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1435, succeeded to the estate of Upton. Edward Cressett, father of the writer of the two following letters, was a Justice of the Peace for Shropshire, in which capacity he appears in the Calendar

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[1] The event in connection with Pitchford Hall, alluded to by Mr. Richard Wicksted and Sir Thomas Edwardes, has had no collateral light thrown on it, as far as I am aware. It was probably a case of plundering by the Parliamentary soldiers, of which no particulars have been preserved.

[2] The writer was created a Baronet Feb. 12, 1644-5. (Salmon's *Chronol. Hist.*, quoted by Webb, ii., p. 72, note).

of Prisoners, printed in this collection, No. LXXXI, and a Commissioner of Array. He was one of the Grand Jury who sat at the Assizes, 8th August, 1842, and signed the "Declaration and Protestation" to present to the King, while as yet he had not erected his Standard at Nottingham (see LXV.); he signed, also, the "Ingagement and Resolution" for raising and maintaining forces at their own cost agreed upon by the gentlemen of Salop. He sat on a Council of War, held by Lord Capel at Shrewsbury, 3rd April, 1643, and at a meeting of the Commissioners of Array in Bridgnorth, May the 21st, 1645, where he was shortly afterwards slain. Richard Cressett, in praying for exemption from attending the meeting of the Commissioners, alleges as reasons the recent death of his father, his desire to live in retirement, and some unexplained danger of ruin. The latter may have been the risk he was exposed to from the Parliamentary soldiers paying him a visit at Upton Cressett, if he quitted his house on the King's business. But I am disposed to think that the true cause of his disinclination to act was that he saw enough to convince him that the Parliament would very soon be in possession of the whole county, and that he intended to join the winning side. It is certain that he was acting with other Parliamentary Justices of the Peace four years later, for I have seen a pass of that date given toRichard Ottley, son of Sir Francis, with his signature attached.

CCXLIII. RICHARD CRESSETT TO THE SAME.

1645-6.

Sir

Receiving a letter from you, Sir Edw: Acton and Collonell Billingsley, I thought it not improper to write an Answer in general unto you all, but presuming of your good wishes to me, I Address these lines to you, desiring your serious thoughts upon my excuse, who you know since my Father's death have lived a retired Life, and very great reason for it; S^{r}, I am confident I need not ask anything of you

that you can grant me, if you please to favour me so farr as to silence my name (if urged by any) you will extreamly Oblige him that is really yours, whilst I am

Upton Cressett
Jany: 26. 1645

RI: CRESSETT.

For my honour'd freind
and kinsman Sr Fra: Ottley these.

CCXLIV. RICHARD CRESSETT TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF ARRAY.

1645-6.

GENTLEMEN

Uppon Saturday night I received Yor Lre: requiring my Attendance this Day upon my Lord Astley, In the condition and case I stand (so well known to you my Noble Friends and kinsmen) I p'sume to beg the favour to be Absent, Otherwise I Appeal to Yorselves whether I can expect less then certain ruin to ensue; this request (as I assure myself) is not beyond yor power to grant, for I cannot doubt it greater than Yor love to me & my children; and your regard to him who is gone in those he hath left behind; and now having p'mised this Confidence in your real Affection, I shall rely thereon in this favour (so conduceible to my safety) only as a corroboration to this my Opinion of you, And as a further Assurance of his Obligations to you who is

Upton Cressett
26° January 1645

Your very humble Servant
RI. CRESSETT.

For his hon'able Friends
and kinsmen Sr Francis
Ottley, Sr Edward Acton, and
Collonell Francis Billingsley These

The activity of Lord Asteley during the early part of the year, in reorganising the few garrisons remaining to the King in Shropshire, failed to turn the tide of misfortune that had set in. The Shrewsbury Committee had no sooner gained High Ercall in March, which had long been a trouble to them, because of its close proximity, being only 8 miles distant, than they were enabled to despatch a strong force of horse and foot to Bridgnorth, on the 31st of the same month, and on the 26th of April, it was compelled to surrender on the terms expressed in the next paper.

CCXLV. ARTICLES OF SURRENDER OF BRIDGNORTH CASTLE.[1]

1646.

Articles Agreed upon for the Surrender of Bridgnorth Castle the 26th of April 1646 Between Sir Robert Howard, Knight of the Bath, Governor, Sir Vincent Corbet, Sir Edward Acton, and Sir Francis Ottley Commissioners for the King. And Collonell Andrew Lloyd, Coll: Robert Clive, and Robert Charleton, Esqrs Coms for the Parliament.

I. That all Comissioned Officers of Horse, and all Captains of Foot, shall march away to any of his Majesty's Garrisons or Armys within forty Miles, with their Horses and Arms for themselves, and each of them to have a Servant with his Horse and Sword and their wearing Apparel, Free Quarter for 30 Miles and a Safe Conduct, and not to March less than Eight Miles a day, and any of the aforesaid Officers to repair to any of their own habitations.

II. That all inferior Commissioned Officers shall have liberty to March with their Swords, and the common Soldiers without arms, to any of his Majesty's Garrisons or Armies within 40 Miles as formerly mentioned, on laying down their Arms; to live at their own Habitations, for a fortnight, and afterwards to take the Negative Oath, if they continue within this County, or Letters from hence to the Committees of the several Counties where they intend to reside, and to have papers granted them accordingly.

III. That all Clergymen, Town'smen, and Countrymen, within the Castle, may have liberty to repair to their own habitations, provided they lay down their arms, and a fortnight's time allowed them for taking the negative oath, and not to live within a mile of the Parliament Garrisons; or otherwise, if they should desire it, to march to any of the King's Garrisons or Armies.

IV. That all wounded and sick persons within the Castle shall have liberty to reside in the Low Town, or elsewhere, till they be fit to travel; and then to have passes to go home, or to any of the King's Garrisons or Armies.

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[1] Printed in Bellett's *Antiquities of Bridgnorth*, and in *Calendar of State Papers* for 1646, with some unimportant verbal differences.

V. That Sir Robert Howard, Sir Vincent Corbet, Sir Edward Acton, and Sir Francis Ottley, with each of them, their horses, arms, and two men apiece, with their horses and swords, and their masters wearing apparel, shall have liberty to march to their several habitations, and to continue there for the space of two months: to which time they are to make their election, whether they will go to make their peace with the Parliament, or go beyond Sea, or to any of the King's Garrisons or Armies, and to have passes accordingly,—they engaging themselves to do nothing prejudicial to the Parliament in the mean time.

VI. That Mr Howard, Mr Fisher, and Mr Grovenor, shall march away with their horses and arms, and one man apiece, with their apparel and swords, to any place within forty miles.

VII. That Lieutenant Col. Hosier and Doctor Dewen shall march away without horse or arms, to any of the King's Garrisons, or any other place within thirty miles; provided it be not within this County.

VIII. That Mr. Milward, Chaplain of the Garrison, may have liberty to go with a horse, to his house at Leighton, in this County, and to take with him his manuscripts, and there to live, taking the negative oath within one month's time; or is to march away out of the County with the rest.

IX. That the Clerks of the Commissioners may have liberty to march, as the rest of the inferior Officers, and to have the same conditions; and to take with them all papers concerning the Garrison, and their wearing apparel.

X. That Lady Ottley, her children, and maid-servant have liberty, with their wearing cloaths, to go to Pitchford, or the Hay, and there to live unmolested.

XI. That all women and children within the Castle, may have liberty to go to their own, or any of their friends' houses, provided it be not within one mile of this Garrison.

XII. That all Gentlemen, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Castle, Strangers as well as others, desiring to go beyond Sea, shall have passes accordingly, and letters to the Committee of their several Counties, to afford them the like conditions as to the Gentlemen of this County, upon the surrender of this Castle here granted.

XIII. That the chirugeons belonging to the Garrison shall march away, and to have the same conditions as the inferior Officers.

XIV. That the Gunners and Powdermen, with their mates, may march away as the rest of the common Soldiers.

XV. That no violence, injury, or incivility, shall be offered to any who shall march out of this Castle, but be protected in all things, according to the tenor of these Articles; and that sufficient Hostages on both sides be given for the performance of all and every the matters here agreed upon.

XVI. That the Governor, and the rest of the Officers, shall do their utmost endeavor to protect and preserve all the ordnance, arms, ammunition, victuals, provisions, goods, bedding, and all other accommodations necessary and belonging to the Castle, other than what is allowed to be taken by the aforesaid Articles; and all these safe and unspoiled, to be delivered up, together with the Castle, unto the Committee or whom they shall appoint; and that these Articles be confirmed by the Governor.

XVII. That if these Articles be consented to, the Castle shall be surrendered by seven of the clock tomorrow morning; and those who intend to march to Worcester, to quarter in the Low Town, or any other Town within five miles of the Garrison, upon the return of the Trumpeter and Officer sent to Worcester; provided that they come within two days.

XVIII. That if any Officer, or Soldier, shall in anyway maliciously spoil his horse or arms, or misdemean himself in his march, such misdemeanor shall not be extended further than upon the party offending; and upon them justice shall be done according to the dicipline of war.

XIX. That all Commissioned Officers be certified by the Governor of the Castle, and upon his certificate be allowed to march accordingly; and that all Troopers march away with their swords.

XX. That Mr Edward Latham [? Lathom] be delivered to the mercy of the Parliament.

[Signed]

ANDREW LLOYD.
ROBERT CLIVE.
ROBERT CHARLTON.

With the fall of Bridgnorth the military and official career of Sir Francis Ottley ended. Henceforth he lived in retirement, and from some family letters, appears to have been exclusively engaged in completing with much difficulty his heavy composition with the authorities of Goldsmith's Hall, spending part of his time in London, and the rest in Shropshire. He lived to see the King, whom he had served so faithfully, beheaded January 30, 1649, and in less than eight months afterwards, Sept. 11, he himself passed away in the 48th year of his age. Where his remains were laid no one appears to know.

CCXLVI. A PASS FOR SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1646.

According to the Articles of Agreement, upon the surrender of the Castle of Bridgenorth into our Hands for the service of the Parliament, S^r^ Francis Ottley Knight, is hereby Licensed together with his Servants, Horses, Arms, & Wearing Apparell, quietly to pass all your Scouts & Guards to Pitchford, or the Hay, or Else where in the County of Salop, & to remain under the protection of the Parliament two Months, unmolested, in which he is to be at full liberty to make his Composition with the Parliament, or to March to any of his Majesties Garrisons or Armys Whatsoever, or else to go beyond the Seas, & to have passes Accordingly as he shall think fitt. Dated at

Bridgenorth this 28^th^ day of April 1646.

To all Officers & Soldiers belonging
To the Parliament.

These are straightly to Charge & require you not to Offer Violence to the Person of S^r^ Francis Ottley his Lady, their children or Servants, or to plunder or take away any of their Goods or cattle without Special Warrant under our Hands to that purpose. As also to pass from this Garrison to Pitchford with their Horses Arms & Necessaries, without your Molestation, Given under our hands

AND: LLOYD.
Bridgenorth April 28 1646. RO. CLIVE
ROBT CHARLTON.

To all Officers & Soldiers in the Parliament Armys.

CCXLVII. ELINOR DAVENPORT TO LADY OTTLEY

1646

Good Maddam

My humble servis presented to your Ladyship; I have bine at bridgnorth with the sequestraters, mager Braine went with me to Mr Hunke Hed and wished him that I might have any thing that was my Lady Ottley's; hee sends me to Mr Kittelsby and with all bides me take a note what things I would have, I com to him and desire to lett me see what goodes my lady hath there, as beddes, and couertens, and any other things which is in his keping, hee sayes that my Lady Ottley desired nothing but her hemp and flax and that was praised: I asked at what rates, hee says, that in the trunke at xxxx^{s} and that in the chest at xxx^{s}, but for anything elce hee would not unfurnish him selfe as yet, but when that they ware praysed then Hee will send mee word, for now the committe had sent a sworne man to praise those things which ware not praised. I wished them to use some conservency to so good a Lady as she is, they promise that they will do any curtsey they can, So I beeseech, good maddam, when you send to my Lady Ottley, present my humble service to her, and I should bee glad if I could doe her Lady ship any servis that lyes in my power; this with my serves to my cozen Margret and all yours I remain

Your servant to command

Elinor Davenport.

My sister Davenport presents her humble serves
to her Ladyship and bee seeches you to excuse
her for not coming to wait on you.

By the Articles agreed upon at the surrender of Bridgnorth Castle, 26th April, 1646, it was provided "That Lady Ottley, her children, and maid servants, have liberty, with their wearing clothes, to go to Pitchford, or the Hay, and there to live unmolested." I presume that the writer of this letter had undertaken to see to her Ladyship's goods on her belalf, and that this is her report.

Thomas Lee, who writes to Lady Ottley in the next letter, was the son of Lancelot Lee of Coton, in the parish of Alveley, by his wife Jane, daughter of Thomas Clemson of Berrington, co. Stafford. Lancelot Lee was

a Justice of the Peace for Salop, who sided with the Parliament, and was appointed one of the Shropshire Committee. He was a kinsman of Sir Francis Ottley, his mother being a daughter of Richard Ottley, uncle of Sir Francis. Thomas Lee was of Lincoln's Inn, and it is not difficult to understand that on the strength of their relationship Lady Ottley had engaged him as her attorney, with the hope that he and his father might use what influence they possessed with the sequestrators, to obtain easier terms in valuing the produce of the farm in question, and placing on it an acceptable tenant.

"Cosen Kettlesby," mentioned by Thomas Lee, may have been of the family of Kettleby of Steple, or Stepple Hall, in the parish of Neen Savage, the difference of spelling the name being no obstacle to such an inference, considering what looseness existed then in spelling names. There was a Thomas Kettelby, who with Miles Ashton wrote to the Bailiff and inhabitants of Bishop's Castle, Feb. 23rd, 1645-6, stating that they had received orders from the Honorable Committee of Parliament to protect the town from the "violence and wronges of the comon enemye," in other words, from the Royalists. This might have been "Cozen Kettlesby."

CCXLVIII. THOMAS LEE TO LADY OTTLEY.

1646.

MADAM

My ffather w'th my selfe have bine with the sequestrators accordinge to your Desire, and they seeme to bee very willinge to lett us have it before any, but their rates of selling are very high, requiringe noe lesse then the one halfe of ye yearely value of it w'th all other payments besides, w'ch is very hard, espeacially consideringe how farr ye yeare is gone, a stocke at present beinge waitinge w'th all. They value it at Eight score pounds p' An'm, and say it lyes only in ye power of the Committee to lett it bee sett under ye above written rate, they haveinge an order from them to lett it noe otherwise; I conceave your Ladyship hath noe better way then to send your man Richards to ye Committee uppon ffriday where p'happs hee may meete with either Mr Hawkeshead or my Cosen Kettlesby, and they will acquaint ye Committee how ye

state of the busines standes, otherwise, if hee meete them not, hee without doubt by some friend's meanes may have accesse to them; yt it is very hard to give fourescore pounds p' A'um for it w'th all other Dues & Duties for it, consideringe their want of a stocke, & the forwardnes of ye springe, wich hee, beinge a notable husbandman, needes not bee tould what to say, and I thinke noe man fitter then hee to take it, for I see it is the manner of others to putt one of their servants to take their demeanes, as it were for them selves, ye hard corne, I beleeve, yt is in the grownd wilbe given into ye bargaine; for the pease and the barley, especially ye barley, the buyinge of it must be payed for; and for the corne in the barne you might resolve to take a course about, or else it wilbe all threashed up and sould; but I doe intend if possible to stop them tomorrow tell I doe learne from you what you have done, and for to bargaine with them for it; but as for the other thinges that were in the Castle all that possibly can bee spared you shall have at such rates as they bee praysed. Thus leavinge all to your better Consideracons with my ffathers and my most humble service to S^r^ ffrancis, your Ladyship, and Cosens, wishinge all best that may bee I rest in hast

6^o^ May 1646. Yor Ladyshipp's most humble servant to Comaund

THOS: LEE.

My ffather uppon Consideracon since hee speake with you is afrayde yt you will make little of it unlesse it bee through your owne stockinge of it, there are such a deale of voyde grounds hereabouts, hee would have you bethinke your selfe likewise about it whether it wilbe best for you to take it all, or ye house and some of it. I pray lett there be noe time lost in this busines, and as soon as may bee lett Richards come to my ffather & acquaint him what is done, for my ffather hath p'ferred ye Sequestrators £20 p' A'um with all other payments and hee believes it were better proffer to the Comittee £20 more rather then lett it passe to others. I much feare what wee shall doe about ye corne in the barne, they can tell so well how many stricks it will come to, it had beine well if it had bin looked after before it was soe neere threshed.

CCXLIX. A PASS FOR MR RICHARD OTTLEY.

1646.

These are to desire you that you permit and suffer the bearer hereof Mr Richard Ottley with his Horse to pass all

your Courts of Guard and Scouts from Pitchford to this Garrison of Shrewsbury, to Speak with this Committee, without any your let or Interruption, given under our hands this 16th of June 1646.

p. Ro: Clive
And: Lloyd
Robt Charlton.

To all Commanders Officers and Soldiers, in the service of the King and Parliam^t

CCL. AN ORDER OF THE SEQUESTRATORS.

1646.

By me Thomas Farmer.

At the Com^tee of Goldsmith's Hall, London for Compounding with Delinquents according to an Order of the Honourable House of Commons you are hereby directed and required that you forbear to Medle with any part of Sir Francis Ottley's goods not yet taken away or to Cutt any of his Woods, or sell or dispose of Any part that is felled or unfelled.

18 Junii

D. Watkins
Rich. Waring
Jerom: Alexander
John Ashe
Christopher Hacke
Mich: Hering.

CCLI. AN ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1646

Die Jovis 8 Julii. 1646.

Ordered by the Commons Assembled in Parliament, that all such Persons as have presented Petitions at Goldsmith's Hall, or agreed to their Compositions, & shall not come in before the first of August next, and prosecute their Compositions to Effect, shall lose the whole benefit of faviour intended by their Compositions and be reputed amongst those who still stand out, & have not rendered themselves to the Parliament,

This to be forthwith printed & published, and that the case thereof be referred to the Committee of Goldsmith's Hall.

H. Elsynge Cler: Parl. D: Com.

Vera Copia

CCLII. AN ORDER OF THE SEQUESTRATION COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PROPERTY OF SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1646.

At the Com^tee at Goldsmiths Hall London for the Compounding with Delinquents 24° July 1646

GENT.

We formerly sent you a letter requiring you to Certify unto us the Value of the Estate real and personal of Sir Francis Ottley, Knight, & that you should deliver all such Writings which concern his Estate, that thereby he might the better proceed to a Composition for the same, and that you would forbear to Cutt & fell any of his Woods, or dispose of any already felled or Cut; these are therefore to require you to Yeald Conformity to our said Order, and to deliver unto the said Sir Francis, or to whom he shall Appoint to receive the same, a deed of Feoffment, made by the said Sir Francis Ottley's Father and himself for payment of Debt (and raiseing of portions to Feoffees in Trust) in case you have not delivered the same, and that you forbeare to Cutt or carry any more of his Woods, or otherwise to prejudice him in any part of his personal Estate upon any pretence whatsoever, untill you shall receive further Order from this Committee therein, so not doubting of your complyance we rest.

To his very Loving and Much respected Sister Mrs Mary Harries at Cructon, these with speed
Leave this with Mr John Wathall Draper in the High Street whom I pray to convey with speed as above

JOHN ASHE. ANTHO: IRBY
D: WATKINS
JEREM: ALEXANDER
CH. PACKE.
SAM: MOYER
RICH: WARING

Shrewsbury p Post.

CCLIII. PROVISION FOR LADY OTTLEY BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE.

1646.

Quinto die Sept: 1646.

It is Ordered that the Lady Lucy Ottley wife of Sir Francis Ottley Knight have a fifth part of the real estate of her said husband, and a fifth part of his personal Estate (yet undisposed off) Assigned unto her towards the Maintainance of her self and Children, according to the Ordinance of Parliament in that behalf.

E. H: RICH: MASON

Clerk to the Com^tee.

On the capture of Ludlow by Col. Birch in May the last of the Royal Garrisons in Shropshire had fallen, and the Civil War was virtually at an end. And on the 22nd of June Prince Rupert and Prince Maurice "took the road, with their attendants, and their passes to the sea-coast; a sight for the curious. On Tuesday 'there went about 300 persons, mostly of quality;' and on Wednesday all the Royalist force, '3,000' (or say 2,000) 'to the Eastward, 500 to the North;' 'with drums beating, colours flying,' for the last time; all with passes, with agitated thoughts and outlooks: and in sacred Oxford, as poor Wood intimates, the abomination of desolation supervened!—Oxford surrendering with the King's sanction quickened other surrenders; Ragland Castle itself, and the obstinate old Marquis, gave in before the end of August; and the First Civil War, to the last ember of it, was extinct."[1]

[1] Carlyle's *Oliver Cromwell*, i., p. 219.

In concludiug the task of editing, to the best of my ability, this very interesting collection of papers, I deem it necessary to append a few remarks.

Should I have laid myself open to the charge of presumption in undertaking this work, I can only reply that I entered upon it with much diffidence, and contemplated merely a transcript of the MSS., generously entrusted to me by Colonel Cotes, for insertion in our *Transactions*, accompanied by the brief notes of the late Joseph Morris. I soon discovered, however, that without much fuller comments on persons and events, the meaning and value of the MSS. could hardly be appreciated. It was necessary to construct a chronolo-

gical table of events relating to, and affecting Shropshire, during the course of the Civil War; and to collect from every available source such biographical notes of those who played their parts, as leading or subordinate characters, in the great drama of the period. These considerations opened my eyes to the gravity and largeness of my task, but not till it was too late to abandon it. I have done the best I could, and now trust to the lenient judgment of the reader. I ask no tolerance of errors, some of which I have already detected, and shall be obliged by having my attention called to those that have escaped me, which shall be noticed in a future list of corrigenda.

In addition to those persons to whom I have already expressed my obligations for their assistance, I must here mention the following:—Miss Auden, Dr. E. Calvert, Mr. Thomas Slaney Eyton, Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, Mr. H. T. Weyman, Mr. Samuel Butler, Mr. Rupert Kettle, and Mr. Robert Watkins.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

Dedicated to St. John Baptist

RUYTON CHURCH.

By R. LLOYD KENYON.

The Laws of King Edgar, first sole monarch of all England, made about A.D. 970, enact "That God's Churches be entitled to every right; and that every tithe be rendered to the old Minster to which the district belongs." "But if there be any thane who on his bocland [freehold land held by deed] has a Church at which there is a burial place, let him give the third part of his own tithe to his Church. If anyone have a Church at which there is not a burial place, then of the nine parts [left to himself after the tithe is paid] let him give to his priest what he will." Therefore, before this time, England had been divided into ecclesiastical districts, each attached to a Minster; and as the mass priest of the Minster is immediately afterwards distinguished from the Bishop and declared to be entitled to the tithe, these districts were what we call not dioceses, but parishes, and the Minsters parish churches. And as we find that 200 years later Ruyton was a part of Baschurch parish, we may presume that it was so from the beginning, and that the tithes of Ruyton were paid to the Church of Baschurch at least from the time of King Edgar to the time when Ruyton got an independent Church of its own.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the owner of the Manor of Ruyton was one Levenot, who owned also the manors of Petton and Stanwardine-in-the-Wood, Sheet in Ludford Parish, Cardeston, and parts of Whitton and Little Withiford. The Manor of Ruyton at that time comprised only the Township of Ruyton, and, probably, Coton; for Wykey and Felton,

which are now included in it, were then independent manors, and included all the other townships now in the Manor of Ruyton. At the conquest they all passed, with the greater part of Shropshire, to Roger of Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, the conqueror of Montgomeryshire and founder of Shrewsbury Abbey, and he gave to his new Abbey, among other things, the advowson of the Church of Baschurch. When Domesday Book was compiled, about A.D. 1080 to 1086, one Odo held Ruyton and Stanwardine, under the Earl. The Earl's property passed successively, with the Earldom of Shrewsbury, to his sons Hugh and Robert, and was forfeited to the King by the rebellion of the latter in 1102. The Earldom was not reconstituted, and the enormous property was broken up, but Alan Fitz Flaald was made hereditary Sheriff of Shropshire, and was given more than 70 manors in various parts of Shropshire, besides many others elsewhere. Among the manors so given to him were Ruyton, Stanwardine, Felton and Wykey. They passed about 1114 to his son William Fitz Alan, then a child, and he, about A.D. 1155, or perhaps earlier, gave Ruyton, Wykey, and Felton to John le Strange to hold under himself. It is in William Fitz Alan's time that we find the first mention of a Church at Ruyton; for a Charter of Bishop Clinton of Lichfield, 1129 to 1148, confirms to Shrewsbury Abbey "The Church of Nesse with a pension of 10/-, the Church of Album Monasterium (Oswestry) with its Chapels and its pension of 30/-, the Church of Bascherch with its Chapels and its pension of 20/-, and the Church of Mudle (Middle) with its pension of 6/8;" and his successor Bishop Durdent, 1149 to 1159, confirms to the Abbey, "The Church of Nesse with its tithes, the Church of Album Monasterium with its tithes and its appurtenant Chapels, the Church of Baschirche with the Church of Rueton and the Church of Petton which pertain to it as Chapels, and the Church of Mudla with its tithes and Chapels." So that the chapels subject to Baschurch were those of Ruyton

and Petton, and both of them existed before the death of Bishop Clinton in 1148. The extremely disturbed reign of King Stephen is not a time at which one would have expected Church building to flourish, but as a matter of fact, a good many of such subject Chapels were built in Shropshire in this reign by laymen, and consecrated by the Bishops of Lichfield and Hereford, "as a protection for the poor and having respect to the warlike troubles of the time," as the Bishop of Hereford put it;[1] "necessity compelling," as Bishop Clinton of Lichfield says.

The architecture of this Church must have been Norman, for the Gothic style was not introduced for thirty years or more after 1148; and as the Norman style had quite gone out of use by the end of the 12th century, it cannot have been adopted in any subsequent restorations of the Church, therefore any parts of the Church now remaining which are built in the Norman style may be safely ascribed to a period before 1148 These parts are the north and south walls of the chancel, except a few feet at the east end, where it was lengthened in later times, and where the original termination may have been an apse; and the south wall of the nave. In the south wall of the chancel are a Norman priest's doorway and two Norman windows, of good work, with a string course connecting them both inside and outside. In the north wall are also two Norman windows connected by a string course both inside and outside. A similar string course runs along the outside of the south wall of the nave, though interrupted by thecutting of two perpendicular windows; and the doorway under the porch is Norman. The aumbries in the north wall of the chancel may be Norman, but are perhaps more probably later insertions; and the round arch on the outside of the same wall is probably modern, and perhaps connected with a vault outside, and never contained a door into the Church.

[1] Eyton i., 37, ii, 332.

Many of the stones in the Norman windows and elsewhere have had to be renewed, but substantially the two walls of the chancel and the south wall of the nave belong to the original Church, and were built before 1148. The style of work[1] belongs to a period probably not earlier than 1120, so that we may safely date the erection of the Church between 1120 and 1148.

Baschurch, the "minster" or mother Church of Ruyton, was a Collegiate Church, where several priests held the Rectory in common, as is still the case at Pontesbury. They were appointed by Shrewsbury Abbey, but received the income for their own use, and were not removable by the Abbey. They would therefore not be monks, but secular clergy. Probably they lived together, and one of them would periodically ride or walk over to Ruyton to perform the services there. But Novant, Bishop of Lichfield, between 1188 and 1194, by Charter appropriated the Church of Baschurch with all its appurtenances, after the deaths of the two existing incumbents, William Brun and Herbert fitz Alard, to Shrewsbury Abbey "for the use of their guests and of travellers, and of the poor," subject to an obligation to present at all future times to the Bishop a suitable person, who should receive a proper and sufficient portion of the income to enable him to support all the burdens properly belonging to the Church. Between 1208 and 1210, William Brun's portion fell vacant, and as the See of Lichfield and Coventry was also vacant, the official of the late Bishop inducted the Abbey into corporal possession of that Portion, an induction which was repeated in 1216 by the new Bishop. If William fitz Alard's portion was also vacant, the Abbey now became Rector of Baschurch, and the tithes, including those of Ruyton, were payable to the

[1] For my information as to the architecture of the different parts of the Church I am indebted to Mr. D. H. S. Cranage, who most kindly visited Ruyton and very carefully examined the Church on the 16th April, 1896.

Abbey. Henceforth one of the monks would be appointed Vicar of Baschurch, and would be responsible for the services at Ruyton also, but would be removable at the will of the Abbey.[1] The income of the Vicar of Baschurch was valued for Pope Nicholas' Taxation in 1291 at £5 2s. per annum.

But if the black robed[2] Benedictines ever came to Ruyton, their rule there cannot have lasted long. "John le Strange, Lord of Knokyn & of Ruton, held always with the King [John], and did damage to the prince [Llewellyn of Wales]'s people. And therefore the prince caused the castle of Ruton to be demolished, and took his people and imprisoned them; at which John was much grieved."[3] This must have been in or about the year 1212,[4] and it is very probable that the chapel would be partly destroyed with the castle, though, as we have seen, part of the present Church is certainly older than that time. And about A.D. 1230 to 1240 Ruyton had become an independent parish, for the name of "Walter, Parson of Ruton" occurs as witness to a deed of that date relating to land at Edgbold.[5] We may suppose that this was done by the influence of John le Strange (the second), who died 1237-8. The Manor of Baschurch was now wholly in the hands of the Abbot of Shrewsbury, and the new Parish was constituted for the two adjacent Manors of Ruyton and Wykey, which belonged to le Strange; Felton was in the hands of another branch of the same family, and had a church of its own, and was therefore not included. Ruyton being the site of the Castle and Church naturally gave the name to the parish,

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[1] See *Blackstone*, Bk. iv., pt. ii., ch. 1.

[2] The general Chapter of the Order at Northampton, A.D. 1225, allowed the gown to be black, white, or russet coloured cloth (*Monasticon* i., xlviii); but in later times at least it seems generally to have been black. (See *Encyclopædias* and Owen & Blakeway, i., 87).

[3] *Hist. of Fulk Fitz Warine*, published by the Warton Club, p. 101.

[4] See Owen & Blakeway, i., 91

[5] Eyton ix., 324.

and to the united Manor, and Wykey and the townships belonging to it became townships in Ruyton. On the formation of the new parish, the Monks of Shrewsbury had to surrender their right to the tithes, but they were perhaps glad to do this in consideration of not being called upon to rebuild the Church, for the tithes in a district so liable to Welsh incursions and to hostilities between neighbouring Barons can have been of very little value. Le Strange became the patron, and doubtless himself did any restoration which the Church may have required.

At this period, therefore, between the destruction of the Castle in 1212 and the erection of Ruyton into a separate parish about 1238, it is likely that repairs or improvements were executed. The early English architecture prevailed, and was in its youth at this time; and to this period the westernmost pier with two smaller shafts attached to it, and its base, and the westernmost arch, certainly belong. The base of the next column is invisible, and those of the two easternmost ones are 100 years later; but the most easterly arch seems to be composed of stones similar to those in the westernmost, while the mouldings on the two western arches are much better than on the others, but the whole seem carelessly and clumsily put together. In all probability, the original Norman Church had no aisle, and Le Strange at this time built a chapel where the east end of the aisle now is, communicating with the Church by two arches; and the pier with two small shafts, which is at the west end of the present aisle, was at the west end of that chapel, with a similar one at the east end, which has since been cut away for the niche there, and one column in the middle, on which was probably the curious carved head still to be seen; and all the good and carefully worked mouldings on the existing arches belonged to the two arches so built by Le Strange; and the single carved corbel now in the wall of the aisle supported the roof of this chapel; but all were taken down when the chapel was enlarged

into an aisle in the following century, and re-built in their present positions. It may be that the Chantry which we find existing in Henry VIII.'s time was founded by Le Strange for serving an altar in this Chapel. The priest's primary duty would no doubt be to pray for the souls of Le Strange and his family.

In 1272, the Abbot of the Augustinian Abbey of Haughmond is said to have been a Le Strange, but whether this were so or not, in that year John le Strange, the fourth of the name, gave to Haughmond Abbey one acre of his own demesne in Ruiton lying near the King's way towards Whiteminster (Oswestry), and reaching in length from the house of William, son of John le Mazun, to the grantor's meadow; together with the advowson of the Church of Ruiton, with its appurtenances; so that the patronage now passed from the Le Stranges to Haughmond Abbey, which retained it till the dissolution of the Abbey. About the same time he also gave to the Abbey the Heath Mill, on condition that with half the profits of it they should maintain two lights to burn at the head and foot of the tomb of Johanna his wife.[1] It does not appear whether this tomb was in the Abbey or in Ruyton Church. If the latter, this land may have been part of that sold in Edward VI.'s reign.

The object of patrons in transferring their patronage to Religious Houses is thus stated in a remonstrance against appropriations addressed by the English nobility to Pope Alexander IV. in 1259:[2]—"That they and their predecessors, out of respect to the appearing sanctity of Religious Societies in England, had liberally conferred upon them their right of patronage, that by that means they might have the power of choosing fit persons, and presenting them to the Bishops, as a more effectual provision for the care of souls and relief of the poor;" and they go on to say that "they found them-

[1] Blakeway MSS. in Bodleian.
[2] Kennet's *Parochial Antiquities*, 433.

selves frustrated in this pious intention, not only by Papal provisions that interrupted the right course of presentation, but chiefly because the religious, by clandestine and indirect ways, with neglect or contempt of their own Bishops, had obtained those Churches to their proper use, by concessions from the Apostolic See;" all of which, in spite of the remonstrance, was to be afterwards illustrated in the case of Ruyton parish. For the present, however, the income of the Church remained to the incumbent, the Abbey merely obtaining the right of presentation.

A tombstone of about this period, carved with an elaborate cross and some rude symbols, apparently the sole of a shoe and an axe head, was found built into the wall of the porch, when the latter was re-built in 1892. It is now placed in the aisle.

In the year 1288, King Edward I. promised to undertake a crusade to the Holy Land, and towards defraying the expenses, Pope Nicholas IV. granted him for 6 years the tenths of all ecclesiastical benefices, which tenths had for a long time been paid to the Pope. In consequence of this grant, the King had a valuation of all benefices made on oath, which was completed for the Province of Canterbury in 1291, and is called the Taxation of Pope Nicholas.[1] By this valuation all taxes on ecclesiastical benefices were regulated until Henry VIII. had a new valuation made in 1534. The Rectory of Ruyton was valued at £8 per annum. Perhaps we may consider this to be equivalent in purchasing power to £200 per annum at the present time, though the prices of commodities fluctuated so enormously that it is difficult to arrive at anything like an average value for them; in 1290 for instance, wheat rose from 2/- to 16/- per quarter, and this was far from being an isolated instance. In 1302, wheat is said to have been worth 4/- a quarter, a cow 6/-, a fat sheep 1/-.[2]

Soon after 1301, when Edmund, Earl of Arundel,

[1] *Lingard* iii., 255; *Eccl. Taxatio*, Introduction, and p. 247b.
[2] Fleetwood's *Chronicon Preciosum*, p. 83.

succeeded to the title and to the suzerainty of Ruyton, he bought from John le Strange, the 5th of the name, all his interest in the place, and began to take active measures to develop and improve it. He granted a charter[1] to the inhabitants in the hope of encouraging the growth of a town, he obtained for them the right to hold a market and fair, and he in all probability rebuilt both the Castle and the Church. The decorated style of architecture came into fashion about his time, and the tracery of the east window of the chancel is very characteristic of the first few years of this century. No doubt, therefore, Edmund, Earl of Arundel, built the few feet at the eastern end of the north and south walls of the chancel, and the present east wall. The chancel may have previously terminated, as Norman chancels often did, in an apse. The aumbries in the north wall may be original, or may have been added at this time. West of them is a small square opening, smaller than the usual "low side windows," which has iron hinges for a door to open outwards from the Church. The present doors, both of this and of the aumbries, are new this year (1896).

In 1868, during the restoration of the Church[2], the foundations of a small chamber on the north of the chancel were discovered, and were then arched over and made into a vault, in which, in 1880, Mr. J. R. Kenyon, Q.C., of Pradoe, was buried. The east wall of this chamber was a continuation of the east wall of the chancel, and therefore it cannot have been built before the present east wall was built. It has been suggested that this chamber was built for the abode of a hermit, and that this small opening was its communication with the church. Hermitages existed in Shropshire and in the Diocese of Lichfield in various places from at least the 12th to the 16th centuries,[3] and they were sometimes attached to

[1] Translated and explained, *Shrop. Arch. Trans.*, 2nd series iii, 238.
[2] Parish Paper for Dec., 1873, p. 111.
[3] See index to Eyton; Owen and Blakeway, ii., 165; and *Diocesan Hist. of Lichfield*, pp. 154, 156, 162.

churches. That at St. Chad's, Stafford, was in exactly the same position as ours, on the north side of a Norman chancel, and with a very similar door of communication into the church. Another appears to have been in a similar position, and to have had an exactly similar door at Acton Burnell, and there is still in existence a chamber in a similar position at Stoke Prior Church, Bromsgrove, as to which records are said to exist proving that a hermit was living there in the time of Henry II. The hermitage, if it was one, at Ruyton, can hardly be as early as this, as Norman architecture was still prevailing throughout Henry II's reign, but it may have been built at the same time as, or shortly after, the restoration of the Church by the Earl of Arundel in the reign of Edward II. These hermitages were sometimes at least closed up so that the hermit had no means of egress; his food had to be brought to him by the neighbours, and he probably occupied himself in such work as copying or illuminating MSS, when not engaged in prayer or in giving advice to those who sought it. The hermits were sometimes of noble birth. A tombstone, which appears to represent a hermit knight of the 15th century, was formerly in St. Alkmond's, Shrewsbury, and is now in the Abbey. Perhaps the fact that Ruyton Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist would make it specially likely to be chosen for the abode of a hermit.

Earl Edmund let the fishery of the Heath Pool to John, Rector of Ruyton, for life; but it turned out that the fishery had been granted to Haughmond Abbey, by John le Strange, before the Earl had bought le Strange's rights. The rector died in April, 1325, and in June, the Earl surrendered the fishery to the Abbey. He acquired for himself seven burgages in the Borough of Ruyton, which had been built on land belonging to the Church, giving in exchange to Haughmond Abbey some land at Upton Magna.

Unfortunately for Ruyton, Edmund, Earl of Arundel, took a very leading part in the disturbed politics of

his time, and finally, embracing the side of the King against the Queen and Roger Mortimer, he was taken prisoner on the 17th November, 1326, and beheaded at Hereford.[1] His estates were conferred upon Mortimer, and Ruyton lost the greatest benefactor and most powerful protector it has ever had.

Ruyton had now enjoyed its own tithes for 100 years. John fitz John, Rector of Ruyton, died on April 3rd, 1325, and on May 15th, John de Coventry was admitted as rector on the presentation of the Abbot and Convent of Haughmond. But the Abbot and Convent seem to have thought that now that the Le Stranges and Fitz Alans, who had so long been interested in Ruyton, had both of them lost their connection with it, there would be a good opportunity for the Abbey to make a profit out of it. Pope John XXII. was the reigning Pope, the second of the series who held their Court not at Rome but at Avignon. He was notorious above other Popes for his rapacity.[2] He carried to its height the system of reserving for himself the appointment to benefices vacated by promotion, and of providing incumbents for them who were often foreigners. He sold his appointments for money. In 1331 the Bishop of Lichfield had kept 40 benefices vacant for 3 years, in order to send their revenues to the Pope, and in 1332 he added 12 more to the number. The Pope died fabulously rich. To this Pope the Abbot and Convent sent a petition, accompanied, doubtless, with a handsome fee, stating that the value of Ruyton Rectory was only 12 merks (equivalent to £8), and asking leave to appropriate it. By a Bull[3] dated the Ides of June in the 14th year of our Pontificate (13 June, 1330), the Pope granted this petition, gave the Abbot corporal possession as soon as the existing Rector

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[1] Owen and Blakeway, i., 161.

[2] Milman's *Latin Christianity*, vii., 435, n.; *Dioc. Hist. of Lichfield*, 112.

[3] Copied in full in Blakeway's MSS. No. 3 in Bodleian Library.

should depart, set aside any assent or licence of the Bishop of Lichfield as altogether unnecessary, but reserved out of the income a "congruous portion" for the perpetual Vicar, which should be sufficient to maintain him properly and enable him to sustain the Episcopal charges and other necessary burdens. On 27th Feb. 1331, by deed dated at Prestecote, Roger Northburgh, Bishop of Lichfield, who had himself been nominated to the Bishopric by John XXII., recited the Bull, including the clause declaring his own consent unnecessary, but confirmed it, and for this confirmation he exacted his price. A precisely similar transaction had just taken place with respect to the living of Stanton-upon-Hineheath. There was an ancient right by which in the case of Rectories in this district, if the patron failed to present on a vacancy, two-thirds of the fruits of the living devolved upon the Bishop during the vacancy, and after a certain time, the right to collate to the living came to him. These possible sources of profit he lost when the Rectory was appropriated by an Abbey, and accordingly on the 3rd April, 1331, the Abbot had to agree to pay to the Bishop a pension of 2 merks yearly for his consent to the appropriation of the Churches of Ruyton and Stanton. Moreover, if the Bishop neglected to collate to a Rectory, the right devolved on the Chapters of Lichfield or Coventry. Remote as this chance of profit was, it was not to be parted with for nothing, and each of the Chapters made the Abbey pay them a pension of one merk annually for their consent to the appropriation of these two Churches. These pensions continued to be paid until the dissolution of the Abbey.

But remonstrances against the rapacity both of the Pope and of the Religious Houses were growing loud both in England and on the Continent. The Bishops and nobles were vehement in their complaints, and the popular feeling is expressed in the poetry of Piers Ploughman and Chaucer. We have seen the remonstrance made in 1259 by the English nobility In 1280

a most severe letter was sent by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield,[1] condemning in no measured terms their conduct in taking the tithes from the parishes appropriated to them, and making little or no provision for the churches or resident ministers. He says with respect to Bakewell Church, which belongs to your chapter, "who can endure with patience to hear that the deacon and subdeacon of so rich a Church have to beg for the necessaries of life," and he proceeds with many unfavourable comments, to order what they shall pay in a number of different instances. In 1307 was passed a statute forbidding the sending money out of the Kingdom by Abbeys or other religious bodies; and in 1351 a stringent statute against papal provisions was passed. And while the Bishops and nobles were thus trying to mitigate the evil, a strong feeling was growing up among the lower ranks of the people.

In the beginning of the 13th century had sprung up the orders of mendicant friars, a practical protest against the riches and corruption of the monks and secular clergy; and both of their two great orders, Dominicans and Franciscans, were established in Shrewsbury by the middle of that century. The friars were permitted to travel freely through the country, preaching, hearing confessions, and living on alms, and would be well known in Ruyton as elsewhere. In the time of John XXII. the Franciscans were in open collision with the Pope; many of them asserted that "there were two Churches, one carnal, overburdened with possessions, overflowing with wealth, polluted with wickedness, over which ruled the Roman Pontiff and the inferior Bishops; one spiritual, frugal, without uncleanness, admirable for its virtue, with poverty for its raiment; it contained only the spirituals and their associates, and was ruled by men of spiritual life alone." They asserted the absolute poverty of Christ and his Apostles,

[1] *Monasticon*, vi., 1246.

and that absolute poverty was the perfect way of life. A general chapter of the Franciscan Order at Perugia declared unanimously that to assert the absolute poverty of Christ, the perfect way, was not heretical, but sound, catholic, consonant to the faith. A bull of Nicholas III. distinctly asserted this. One of John XXII. declared it heretical. The General of the Franciscan Order published a protest against the Pope's opinion, and the administrator of the Order in England, together with the administrators in Upper Germany, Aquitaine, France, Castile, and six others, set his seal to the protest. And while the Franciscan friars appealed to the populace, William of Ockham, an Englishman, though settled in Germany, was arguing with the learned on the same side, and attacking on philosophical grounds the whole fabric of the Papal dominion. Clearly an alienation of tithes from the parish where they were raised to the kitchen of a distant Abbey would not pass in the fourteenth century in Shropshire or elsewhere without indignant protest. It would help to form the anti-clerical opinions of Wickliffe and of the Shropshire author of *Piers Ploughman*, both of them children at this time.

Now is Religion a rydere
A romere about
A ledere of love-dayes
And a lond-buggere,[1]
A prikere on a palfrey
Fro manere to manere
An heep of houndes at his ers
As he a lord were.
And but if his knave knele
That shal his coppe brynge,
He loureth on hym, and asketh hym
Who taughte hym curteisie.
Litel hadde lordes to doon,
To gyve lond from hire heires
To religiouse, that han no routhe
Though it reyne on hir auters.[2]

[1] A land buyer.

[2] *Piers Ploughman*, Passus x., line 6217—6232. Written about A.D. 1362.

On the 29th November, 1331,[1] Roger Mortimer was hanged, and Richard Fitz Alan, son of Edmund, was restored to his father's earldom and estates, but it was too late for him to interfere to prevent the alienation of Ruyton tithes. He seems, however, to have regretted the impoverishment of the incumbent, for on April 16th, 1332, being at Oswestry Castle, he gave to William the Vicar and his successors, a messuage and curtilage in the Vill of Ruytone, to pray for the souls of the Earl and his ancestors, and in honour of St. John the Baptist of Ruytone.

On the 4th January, 1332-3, the Bishop admitted William de Tykelwardyn, Chaplain, as the first Vicar of Ruyton, on the presentation of the Abbot and Convent of Haughmond; and on the next day, the Abbot, with the consent of the Bishop, issued an ordinance, in which he recites that in past times the prior and canons had been supplied in the refectory in a moderate and simple fashion, so that often it seemed that the mouth of the ox which treadeth out the corn had been muzzled; but that lately the income of the Abbey had been to some extent, though not sufficiently, augmented. Accordingly he is about to build a new kitchen for the Prior and Convent, and the income from the parishes of Hunstanton, in the Diocese of Norwich, and of Ruyton, in the Diocese of Coventry [*i.e.*, Coventry and Lichfield], and also certain fish ponds, are appropriated for ever to the support of the said kitchen, and whatever beyond this it requires is to be provided out of the common funds of the Abbey. The advowson of Hunstanton, like that of Ruyton, had been given by the Le Strange family to the Abbey.

Thus was completed the alienation of the tithes from the living of Ruyton.

The Papal Bull enabled the Abbey of Haughmond to "ordain" the Vicarage of Ruyton, that is to assign its income, without any consent from the Bishop, and it

[1] *State Trials*, i., 54.

did so by a document dated from the Chapter House of Haughmond on the Monday after the conversion of St. Paul 1335. After reciting the annexation and union of the benefice to the monastery, it proceeds as follows :—[1]

We wishing that the vicar in the said Church should be ordained, ordain the Vicarage as follows in the portions hereunder written. Firstly reserving to ourselves and our successors the Grange farm building and gardens adjacent which formerly belonged to the Rector, and one messuage with half a virgate of land in the Vill of Erdeston; and reserving to ourselves all kinds of tithes of all sorts of corn in the parish of the Church of Ruyton wherever growing except the tithes of gardens cultivated by the spade; and reserving to ourselves the tithe of wool of the whole parish of the aforesaid Church; also the tithe hay of that meadow which lies between the vill of Ruyton and the new park, which tithes we will to keep and we specially reserve to ourselves and our monastery; We have determined to ordain the portions of the aforesaid Vicarage as follows: Viz. that the Vicars from time to time may have and receive in the name of the said Vicarage for their congruous portion, that dwelling house which Jankin of Ruyton formerly held, with the dovecote and garden adjacent, which formerly belonged to the Rectory; Also that the said Vicars may have one virgate of land in the said Vill with its tithe, and two cottages in the said Vill of Ruyton. Also the tithe of milk, flax, hemp, bees, all mortuaries[2] whether live or dead, the tithe also of geese, young pigs, calves, chickens, and of fish ponds and fisheries, and the tithe of all mills built or to be built in the said parish except mills and fisheries belonging to ourselves. They may have also St. Peter's pence, viz. such as are not due to the Lord Bishop; and also the tithe of hay of the whole parish except that of the meadow above reserved to ourselves; the tithe of lambs of the whole parish; and moreover the oblations, and the tithe of all gardens of the whole of the aforesaid parish whether cultivated by the spade or by ploughs; also the pence arising from "broken wool," viz. from those places where there are six fleeces, from which there is not a

[1] A copy of the Latin original is in the Blakeway MSS., No. 3, in the Bodleian Library.

[2] Viz., legacies or gifts to the Church in recompense of tithes and offerings not duly paid. Eyton xii., 187; and see Statute 21 Hen. VIII., c. 6.

whole one for tithe, but instead of tithe a halfpenny is payable for each fleece; and everything else which belongs to the said Church under the head of altar dues or any other head (except the tithes of all kinds of corn, wool, hay, and the mills, fisheries and lands, above reserved to ourselves. And the said Vicars shall receive from us each year 8 bushels of grain at Ruyton on the Lords day next before Christmas; and they shall be subject to and pay the burdens below written, viz. 6/8 to the Archdeacon of the place for his entertainment at his visitation, and 2/- a year for the Bishop's Synod; they shall also cause the services of the said Church of Ruyton to be performed in all respects by chaplains and all other proper ministers at their own cost; but all other incumbrances on the said Church we take upon ourselves in exoneration of the Vicars.

The endowment of the Vicarage was therefore two houses, two cottages, and one "virgate"[1] of land, all in the township of Ruyton, and the tithes and dues above enumerated. One of the two houses, either the one given by the Earl of Arundel or the one given by the Abbey, probably stood on or about the site of the present Vicarage house, which is the only house now belonging to the living. The endowment continued substantially the same until in 1847 the tithes were commuted for a money payment varying according to the price not of the things which up to that time paid tithe to the Vicar, but of wheat, barley, and oats.

The bases of the two eastern-most columns of the aisle appear to belong to this period. Probably on appropriating the tithes the Abbey found it necessary to do something for the Church, so they took down the Le Strange Chapel and built an aisle instead of it, using up the good work of the Chapel, but doing the building as cheaply as possible, putting it together carelessly, and supplementing the good arches of the old work with very inferior new ones. The monks built beautiful churches for their own Monasteries, but

[1] Estimated by Eyton (xii., 209) at about 60 acres; but it varied in extent in different places. The glebe now contains 44½ acres, and probably is much the same as the virgate given in 1335.

they generally took but little interest beyond a pecuniary one in the parish churches which they appropriated.

We have now traced the history of the Church and living of Ruyton down to its establishment upon its present basis in the year 1335, as a Vicarage, endowed with the same land as it holds now, with the same tithes as are represented by its present tithe rent-charge, with a Vicarage House on the site of the present one, and with a Church, the greater part of which was identical with the present one. Of the Rectors of Ruyton before this time we know only a few names. The first was probably that Walter, Parson of Ruyton, mentioned above as witnessing a deed about 1230 to 1240, and would have been appointed by John Le Strange, the Lord of the Manor; but in 1272 the patronage passed to Haughmond Abbey, which appointed all the incumbents from that time till the Dissolution of the Abbey. The last Rectors were John fitz John, who died 3 April, 1325, and John de Coventry, who was admitted 15 May, 1325, and must have "departed," to use the language of the Pope's Bull, by 1331, for

William de Tykelwardyn, Chaplain, was admitted by the Bishop as first Vicar on 4 Jan., 1331-2. The name is, no doubt, a local one, and very probably a corruption of Trilwardyne, the old name of a hamlet at Shifnal.[1] The word "Chaplain" answers almost exactly to our "Curate."[2] Some chaplains had separate charge of a Chapel subject to a mother Church, such as Ruyton had formerly been, some assisted the incumbent in the mother Church; in both these cases the chaplain took an oath to pay due reverence and obedience to the parish priests. There were also chaplains maintained by Lords of Manors for their Manor or house with the consent of the Bishop, and others who served Chantries,

[1] Eyton ii., 311.
[2] Kennet's *Parochial Antiquities*, Glossary.

which were foundations either separate from or attached to churches, endowed for the purpose of performing Masses and other services for the benefit of the soul of the founder or his family. To these last the chaplains were instituted and inducted like incumbents, and took an oath to observe the statutes of the founder. They would necessarily be priests. There was one such Chantry in Ruyton, of which William de Tykelwardyn may very probably have been chaplain, and which, as we have seen, was very likely founded by John Le Strange about 1238.

During William's incumbency statutes of Provisors and Premunire were passed to check the encroachments of the Papal Court. Bishop Norbury of Lichfield made a thorough visitation of his diocese, discovering and remedying many abuses.[1] The Black Death of 1349 carried off many clergy and others throughout the diocese. One of its effects was to cause the English language to be thenceforth used instead of French in the schools, the supply of French-speaking teachers being, doubtless, cut off.[2]

Atton, near Ruyton, now called Shotatton, is spoken of as a new vill in a deed of 1333, dated at Shrewsbury on St. Chad's day. By this deed it appears that a dispute had arisen between Master Richard de Longenorle, Rector of Straunge Nesse, plaintiff, and Sir Nicholas de Longenore (probably the same name and a relation of the Rector's), Abbot of Haghmond, and his Convent, defendants, about the tithes of this new Vill. The dispute was referred to the arbitration of mutual friends, and "it being found by the oath of credible witnesses that the said religious have been accustomed ever since the union and annexation of the parish Church of Ruyton to them made and appropriate to receive the whole third part of the aforesaid tithes and oblations, therefore the said Rector grants for him and

[1] *Diocesan Hist. of Lichfield*, 139.
[2] Owen and Blakeway, i., 167.

his successors that the religious may yearly take as the right of their Church of Ruyton the said third part of tithes and oblations of the said new town, under a penalty of 40/- to be by him and his successors paid as often as he or they shall molest them, and if the Rector or any of his successors shall make default in payment of the penalty he wills and grants, by assent of the ordinary and consent of his patron [Shrewsbury Abbey] that the official of the Archdeacon of Salop, or whatsoever other ordinary judge, after one monition may lawfully put the Church of Nesse under ecclesiastical interdict and suspend all persons willing to celebrate divine service therein until the penalty &c. be paid." This agreement was confirmed by the Bishop of Lichfield by deed of 1 April, 1334.[1] The division of the tithes may be accounted for if we suppose that the new Vill had been built on land hitherto in Ness parish, but owned by a Le Strange or some other person who was also owner of the manor of Ruyton and patron of the Church. The owner may then have assigned to Ruyton Church the spiritual care of the people, and also under the Statute of King Edgar the third part of the tithes of Shotatton, leaving the other two-thirds to the original parish of Ness, to which they are still paid, though the township is wholly in Ruyton.

Robert de Haston was admitted 18 Aug., 1358, but resigned in 1367, when he was appointed Vicar of Shawbury. He is not described in any way, but it seems to have been an advantage of the patronage being in ecclesiastical and not in lay hands that the person presented to the living was nearly always in priests' orders. This was by no means the case everywhere. Of ten Rectors of Felton during this century, no less than four were only acolytes, and two were probably minors, as they had leave of absence given them to study. Such instances were quite common,

[1] Blakeway MSS., n. 3, Shropshire Parochial Notices, in Bodleian Library, and see *post* under the year 1462.

and though the Council of Reading,[1] A.D. 1279, under Archbishop Peckham, made a canon against the practice, it was often not enforced. Possibly the name de Haston indicates that he came from Aston, near Oswestry. The *Vision of Piers Ploughman,* which has been already quoted, was probably published during this incumbency. The author is believed to have been a monk of Malvern, and to have been born at Cleobury Mortimer. A John Aston was one of the principal leaders of the Wyckliffites at Oxford at this time.[2]

Richard de Radenale, priest, admitted 16 Oct., 1367, resigned in 1385. He probably was a native of Rednal. In his time, in 1378, the Plague broke out again in the diocese, and seems to have carried off among others the Vicars of Loppington and Roden.[3] The perpendicular style of architecture came into use in his time, and lasted for 160 years or more.

John Wygynton, chaplain, was admitted 13 June, 1385, and died in 1387. He may have come from Wigginton in Staffordshire. Surnames were very gradually adopted, and though they had become general by this time among the upper classes, the lower classes and peasantry, from whom parish priests were usually taken, continued for long afterwards to be named frequently from their trade or place of residence. On his death Richard Radenale returned, and held the living till his own death.

John Gamull, alias Russell, was admitted 31 May, 1395. He may have belonged to the family of Gamul of Knighton, in Staffordshire, whose pedigree in Ormerod's *History of Cheshire,* iii., 250, mentions a John in Edward III.'s reign, who died unmarried, and may have been a priest. A family of Gamel was well known in Shrewsbury at this time. About this time the religious excitement raised by Wickliffe

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[1] *Hardoin,* vii., 783.
[2] Wood's *History of the University,* i., 480—510.
[3] *Dioc. Hist. of Lichfield,* 156.

and the Lollards was at its height; and the Creed of Piers Ploughman was written somewhere on the Welsh border, containing a strong attack on the friars and praise of Wickliffe. Several similar poems were written and widely circulated, and the authorities tried to stop them by proscribing them and prosecuting the Wickliffites. A priest named William Thorpe was arrested for preaching their doctrines at St. Chad's in Shrewsbury in 1407, and tried before the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Act for burning heretics was passed in 1400; but statutes against Provisions by the Bishop of Rome were also made by the same Parliament. The battle of Shrewsbury was fought during this incumbency, and after it for some time the whole neighbourhood was open to the ravages of the Welsh, and Ruyton was very probably for some time in their possession.[1]

Sir Thomas Wycherley, chaplain, was instituted 30 Aug., 1407, on the death of his predecessor. Like most of his predecessors, he was probably a Shropshire man, and may have come from Clive, where the family was settled by the 10th year of Henry IV. Wycherley the poet was born there in the reign of Charles I.[2] Ruyton may have been again ravaged by the Welsh in his time, as in 1409 they made another attempt on Shrewsbury, and ravaged the country round it. He resigned in 1411 to take the living of Baschurch, and

Sir John Wycherley, chaplain, was instituted 14 Oct., 1411. The celibacy of the clergy was at this time pretty strictly enforced, so that he was probably not a son of his predecessor. The title "Sir" was used commonly for priests at this time, and indicated no civil rank. John Wycherley held the living nearly 50 years. The present tower is of the early perpendicular character of the end of the 14th and beginning of the

[1] The Platt Bridge was considered to be the boundary between English and Welsh territory. Gough's *Hist. of Middle.*

[2] *Athenæ. Oxon.*, iv., 527. Visitation of Shropshire 1623.

15th century, and may have been built at the beginning of this incumbency, perhaps to re-place an earlier one damaged by the Welsh. It is said to contain stones which have evidently come from an earlier building, but they may have come either from an earlier tower, if there was one, or from the castle, which was then, in all probability, in ruins.

In the beginning of this incumbency the reforming Council of Constance met, deposed the Pope on account of his infamous life, but burnt the reformers John Huss and Jerome of Prague, re-asserted the existing system of doctrine and discipline, and accomplished no reformation whatever. In 1417 Sir John Oldcastle, one of the greatest patrons of the reformers, was arrested in the Marches of Wales by Lord Powis, and burnt in London. The reigns of the Lancastrian Kings were very unfavourable to reformations of religious doctrine, and if opinions akin to those of the Lollards took root in this neighbourhood, they were probably not openly avowed. Moreover, the distractions first of the French wars, and afterwards of the Civil Wars of the Roses, would prevent religious controversies from taking a very prominent place.

Sir John Gredynton, chaplain, succeeded on the death of Sir John Wycherley, and was instituted 9 April, 1460. In his time the dispute about the tithes of Shotatton, which had been settled in 1334, was renewed, Richard, Abbot of Haghmond, and his convent, and Sir John Gredynton, being on the one side, and Sir William Bikley, perpetual Vicar of Ness Straunge, on the other side. It was referred to Master John Clone, Bachelor of Degrees, Sequestrator and Commissary General of John, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and he delivered his award in Wem Church on the Thursday after St. Luke's Day, 1462, when he ordered that "the Abbey and the Vicar of Ruyton should receive the third part of all tithes and oblations of the new town of Atton, according to the form and effect of the composition of 1334; save that the Vicar of Straunge

Ness should freely receive the whole oblations of the men and women of Atton offering for three solemn and accustomed days in the Church of Straunge Ness."[1] Accordingly, to this day, the Vicar of Ness receives two-thirds, and the Vicar of Ruyton only one-third of the Vicarial tithes of Shotatton, though the whole township is in the parish of Ruyton. The great tithes, having been appropriated by the Abbeys of Haghmond and Shrewsbury, passed on their dissolution into lay hands. Gredynton resigned in 1468, and was succeeded by

Sir John ap David, alias Walshe, chaplain, instituted 24 Aug., 1468. Surnames were not adopted in Wales till long after they had become universal in England. This Vicar was a Welshman, and there was a statute of 2 Henry IV. still in force that no Welshman should be received as a burgess in any borough or be made occupier or officer in the same; but Ruyton not being a Royal or Parliamentary borough, probably the prohibition would not apply here. This statute and many others against Welshmen were repealed by 21 Jac. I., c. 28, but had probably been practically disregarded long before that time. As long as the memory of Owen Glyndwr and his ravages were fresh in the neighbourhood, no Welshman could have been appointed to Ruyton, but Glyndwr had now been dead more than 50 years, and Welsh marauding, though not extinct, was on a smaller and less formidable scale.

Sir William Sulby, Chaplain, was instituted 18 July, 1480, on the death of Sir John ap David. For some time after this the Diocesan Registers appear to contain no entries relating to Ruyton,[2] and we cannot tell, therefore, how long Sulby held this living. The roof

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[1] Blakeway MSS. No. 3, Shropshire Parochial Notices, in Bodleian Library. This confirms the supposition that Shotatton was originally in Ness parish.

[2] They have been very kindly searched for me by the Registrar, Mr. Hodson.

of the nave appears to belong to about this period, the latter part of the 15th century, and it may have been at the same time that the east pier between the aisle and the nave was cut away, and the niche, which is of perpendicular work, inserted to hold the statue of a saint. The marks of an earlier and higher roof are still to be seen on the outside wall of the tower.

Sulby may have been still in office in 1521, when Cardinal Wolsey ordered a list of 42 of Luther's opinions condemned by the Pope to be posted on all parish church doors, and that the incumbents should require all Luther's books in their parish to be given up.[1] This may have been the first intimation in many country places that the Papal authority was being seriously attacked. We have no means of knowing what the state of private opinion was in this neighbourhood before the beginning of Henry VIII.'s proceedings, or whether the doctrines of Piers Ploughman and his imitators, or the influence of Sir John Oldcastle, had left any dissatisfaction with the religious orders or with the established ceremonies or doctrines of the Church in this part of the Welsh borders. In 1511, the Bishop of Lichfield had tried some insignificant persons for heresy,[2] and in the following March had had one of them burnt at Coventry, then in his diocese; but there was exceedingly little overt expression of dissatisfaction. In 1526, however, Tyndale's translation of the New Testament was sent over to England,[3] and so greatly stimulated the spirit of enquiry and reform that the Bishops published in every diocese a prohibition against the use of it.

In 1528 a clergyman, Richard Coton, for a sermon preached at Atcham, was sentenced to carry a faggot in procession round Lichfield Cathedral, and afterwards round Atcham Church.

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[1] Strype's *Eccl. Mem.*, i., 57.
[2] *Dioc. Hist. of Lichfield*, 177.
[3] Burnet's *Reformation*, i., 51.

In 1530 every incumbent was required to read to his parish a paper, signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and many others, stating that the King having called them together "to examine some books lately set out in the English tongue, they had agreed to condemn them as containing several points of heresy in them; and it being proposed to them whether it was necessary to set forth the Scriptures in the vulgar tongue, they were of opinion that though it had been sometimes done, yet it was not necessary, and that the King did well not to set it out at that time in the English tongue."[1] When Tyndale's translation was prohibited, it had been understood that the Bishops intended to put forth a better translation of their own. This proclamation put an end to that expectation, but must have set many people to think whether the prohibition of Tyndale's translation was justifiable. It is interesting to trace the steps by which the Reformation became an actual fact in a remote parish like Ruyton, where foreign intrigues and the rise and fall of Queens and ministers of state would appear to be of little importance, except as subjects for curiosity and gossip.

Richard Gittins is the next Vicar whose name we know. In 1533 the Act forbidding appeals to the Pope, and the King's appeal from the Pope to a general Council, were ordered to be published on every Church door in England, and thus the beginning of the Reformation was formally announced. In 1534 the whole net income for the first year, and the tenth of it for all succeeding years, of an incumbency were transferred from the Pope to the King, and in 1535 all livings were re-valued. In the record of this valuation, called *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, Ric. Gyttynceus is entered as Vicar of Ruyton, and his vicarage is valued at £6 per an., less 2/- for synodals.[2] The Rectory, belonging

[1] Burnet, i., 262.

[2] At this time 1d. would buy 2 to 3 lbs. of beef. Fleetwood's *Chron. Preciosum.*

to Haughmond Abbey, is valued at £7 2s., less the three payments of one merk (13s. 4d.) each explained above. The first fruits and tenths so given to the King were restored to the Church by Queen Anne, and form the nucleus of the fund known as Queen Anne's Bounty. The family of Gittins is still well known in Ruyton, and may not improbably be related to this Vicar.

In 1534 the Bishops were ordered to warn all the clergy to publish every Sunday the King's title of supreme head of the Church; and the Pope's name was ordered to be erased out of all service books; and in 1535 all the clergy were ordered to teach the King's supremacy, and books on the subject were sent to the Bishops to distribute among them.[1] The Bishop of Lichfield, Rowland Lee, was specially active in obtaining the acknowledgment of this title. The Archbishop of Canterbury also made a metropolitical visitation of his province with the special object of enforcing the acknowledgment of this title and the erasure of the Pope's name from the services.[2] This was the first alteration made in the services, and must be looked upon as the actual beginning of the Reformation in Ruyton and the neighbouring churches.

Next year, 1536, came down royal injunctions[3] for further declarations in Church. On every Sunday for a quarter of a year, and after that twice every quarter, every incumbent was to make a declaration that the Bishop of Rome's usurped power was properly abolished, and that the King's power was supreme; and he was to declare the articles which had lately been agreed to by Convocation, of which the first was that all things were to be interpreted according to the Bible and the three creeds, and the others were explanations of the use and meaning of baptism, penance, communion, justification, images, adoration of saints, purgatory, and a number of

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[1] Strype's *Eccl. Mem.*, i., 259, 285, 298.
[2] Burnet, i., 183, 256, 291, 296.
[3] Printed by Burnet, iv., 90.

ceremonies. The explanations were orthodox enough, and justified the continuance of the old services and ceremonies of the Church, but the fact that the authorities thought the publication to be necessary must have made an impression on many men's minds that there was much that was questionable and in need of explanation. The injunctions further condemned the extolling images for superstition or gain, and ordered that the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and ten Commandments should be taught in English; that the Sacraments should be reverently administered, and that "every Parson shall on this side the feasts of St. Peter ad Vincula next coming, provyde a book of the whole Bible, both in Latin, and also in English, and lay the same in the Quire for every man that will to read and look therein." This English Bible would be Coverdale's, printed in 1535, the only complete Bible yet printed in English.

In 1536 all monasteries with an income less than £200 a year were dissolved. This included Buildwas and a number of smaller foundations in Shrewsbury and elsewhere, but did not touch this immediate neighbourhood; but next year a visitation was ordered of all the remaining monasteries, and though there was no Act authorising their suppression, they must have felt that their danger was imminent.

In 1539 came down to all incumbents further injunctions from the King, to be read quarterly in Church.[1] They were to provide "one book of the whole Bible of the largest volume in English," and set it up in the Church, and encourage everybody to read it. No one was to trust in other men's works, or in pilgrimages, or relics, or saying over beads which they did not understand, all of which tended to idolatry. All images which were abused by pilgrimages or by offerings being made to them, were to be taken down; and the saying of ora pro nobis to the saints was declared unimportant,

[1] Printed in Burnet, iv., 101.

and might be omitted. Some minor alterations, such as abolishing the commemoration of St. Thomas à Becket, were also made. The same injunctions for the first time ordered the keeping of registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials in every parish. Upwards of 800 parishes still have registers of this date,[1] but those of Ruyton before 1719 are lost, and are believed to have been burnt in a fire at the Vicarage in the middle of the last century. The "Bible of the largest volume in English" was that called the "Great Bible," published this year by Coverdale under the authority of Cromwell. The order about the Bible, however, was in many places not carried out, and was repeated, with penalties, in 1541.[2] The Bibles were meant for private reading, but were sometimes misused and made centres for loud arguments and for disturbing the Church services. They were ordered to be "fixed" in the parish churches, and were generally chained to some desk or pillar. The clergy were forbidden to preach anywhere but in their own churches.[3]

In 1539 was passed the "Act of the six Articles," as it is called, though in the Statute Book it bears the remarkable title of "An Act for abolishing of diversity of opinions in certain articles concerning Christian religion." It was entirely in favour of the old doctrines, affirming transubstantion, private masses, and auricular confession, that priests may not marry, that vows of chastity are binding, and that it is not necessary to administer communion in both kinds. This Act also was ordered[4] to be read quarterly in all churches; but as it was known that the Archbishop of Canterbury had voted against it,[5] it may be doubted whether it did much towards "abolishing diversity of opinions."

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[1] Cox's *How to write the History of a Parish*, p. 60.
[2] Burnet, iv., 138.
[3] Strype's *Eccl. Mem.*, i., 467.
[4] Burnet, i., 417.
[5] *Ib.*, 415.

At the same time, an Act was passed legalising all past and future surrenders of Abbeys, great or small, to the King, and on the 9th Sept., 1539,[1] the great Abbey of Haughmond, patron of the living of Ruyton and owner of the tithes and of the mills of the parish, was surrendered by the Abbot and ten canons, the Abbot receiving a pension of £40 a year, and the canons from £5 6s. 8d. to £10 each. If we remember that the whole net income of the Vicar of Ruyton at this time was only valued at £5 18s., the pensions will not seem to have been inadequate. The property of the Abbey passed to the Crown, and was soon sold, but the advowson of Ruyton was retained by the Crown till a few years ago, when it was transferred by way of exchange to the Bishop of Lichfield.

In 1542 Convocation ordered[2] that in every parish church a chapter of the Bible in English should be read to the people every Sunday after the Te Deum and Magnificat, without exposition.

In 1543 an Act of Parliament, however, forbade this, and repeated the prohibition[3] of Tyndale's translation of the Bible, but authorised all others, and the Primers and other books printed in English for the instruction of the people before 1540; but "no women nor artificers, apprentices, journeymen, serving men under the degree of yeomen, husbandmen or labourers" might read the Bible, except that every noble woman or gentlewoman might read it for herself. All books contrary to the doctrine which since 1540 had been, or any time thereafter during the King's life should be, set forth by his highness, were forbidden; and all persons might teach and read in their houses the book which since the same year had been or should be set out by the King, with the Psalter, Primer, Paternoster, Ave, and Creed, in English. By

[1] *Monasticon*, and Burnet, iv., 84.
[2] Strype's *Eccl. Mem.*, i., 580.
[3] Burnet, i., 516.

this Act a book called the "Necessary Erudition of a Christian Man," but popularly styled the "Bishop's Book," was made authoritative.[1] It was drawn up by a committee of divines, who sat by virtue of a commission from the King, confirmed in Parliament, and contained a definition of faith, explanation of the Apostles Creed, the seven Sacraments, the ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, justification, and good works, and was intended as a summary of the belief of the English Church upon these points. The Committee began its sittings in 1540,[2] and the book was printed on the 29th May, 1543, a few days after the Act making it authoritative had passed. It was issued with a preface by the King himself requiring "all people to read and print in their hearts the doctrine of this book."

In 1544 the King sent out an English form of Litany to be used in processions,[3] and ordered it to be used throughout the Province of Canterbury. This was the last alteration in Church services made in the reign of King Henry VIII.; and the whole of the alterations in this reign were so slight that no new service books were printed, but the old ones continued to be used, with the erasure of a few passages, such as the prayers for the Pope and the offices for some saints days which were no longer to be observed.[4] But men's opinions as to the authority of the Church had been shaken to their foundations by the rejection of the Pope and the dissolution of the whole of the monasteries; and the placing of at least one English Bible in every parish was an immense step towards a true conception of religion. Henry VIII.'s death on 27 Jan, 1546-7, greatly accelerated the Reformation.

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[1] Burnet, i., 459.
[2] *Ib.*, 517, n.
[3] Burnet, iv., 145.
[4] Burnet, i., 473.

In 1547 it was ordered by Royal Proclamation that a copy of Erasmus' Paraphrase of the New Testament should be placed, together with the Bible, in every parish church; and Visitors were sent to every diocese with instructions similar to the injunctions of 1539. A book of Homilies was published, and ordered to be read every Sunday in all churches, and the Visitors were to see that all monuments of idolatry were removed out of the walls and windows of churches, as well as all images which were abused by pilgrimages or offerings to them, that there was a pulpit in every church for preaching, and a chest for receiving alms. Preaching had been hitherto so grossly neglected by the clergy, that it was thought necessary to order that all dignified clergymen should preach personally twice a year, and Bishops four times! The Homilies were to supply the incapacity of the ordinary parish priests. The first Act of the reign required the Communion to be given in both kinds, and gave the laity the right to communicate together with the priest. Another repealed the Act of the Six Articles and several other Acts against heretics, and thus restored some liberty of speech and thought about religious matters. A third gave to the King all chantries, colleges, and chapels, and all revenues belonging to any church for anniversaries, obits, and lights. The revenues were to be applied for the maintenance of grammar schools or preachers, and for the increase of vicarages, but were as a matter of fact applied for the general expenses of the Government, and altogether alienated from the Church. This Act affected Ruyton, as there was a Chantry of Our Lady here, endowed with 6/2 per annum; some lands in the parish producing an income of 6/8 per annum, left for maintaining lights, and a rent-charge of 6d. per annum also for a light.[1] No Chantry priest is mentioned, so probably the Chantry was served by the Vicar, whose

[1] Certificates of Colleges and Chantries in the Record Office, Cert. 41, nos. 8, 63, 75.

small income was therefore diminished by its suppression. The lands left for lights may possibly have been the moiety of the Heath Mill, left, as we have seen, by John le Strange about 1272, for maintaining lights at his wife's tomb. All these endowments were sold by the Crown, and on the 21st April, in the 7th year of King Edward VI.,[1] Daniel and Alexander Peate of Tewkesbury, Gentlemen, sold to John ap David ap Thomas of London, yeoman, lands in Ryton and in Shelvoxe and Acton in the same parish, late belonging to the Chantry or Service of St. Mary in the said parish, together with rents belonging to several other chantries in West Felton, Oswestry, and elsewhere, which had been granted to them by the King on the 17th of the same month of April.

In 1548 certain ceremonies,[2] such as carrying candles on Candlemas day, ashes on Ash Wednesday, and palms on Palm Sunday, were forbidden by proclamation; and disputes having arisen as to what images were superstitious or had been abused, and were therefore forbidden by former proclamations, it was now ordered[3] that all images whatever should be removed out of the churches. Now, if not before, therefore, the crucifix must have been removed from the rood loft in Ruyton Church, and the statue out of the niche, and the rood loft itself, the doorway to which is still to be seen by the chancel arch, may have been taken down. In March, a form of Communion Service, adapted from the old Missal,[4] was sent to every diocese, and ordered to be used from the following Easter; offices in English for morning and evening prayer, Litany, baptism, confirmation, catechism, extreme unction, and burial,[5] were drawn up by a committee of divines, and were made compulsory as from Whit-Sunday, 1549, by Act of Parliament. Against this

[1] Blakeway MSS. in Bodleian.
[2] Burnet, ii., 94.
[3] Order of Council, printed in Burnet, iv., 270.
[4] Burnet, ii., 103.
[5] *Ib.*, 121.

Act eight Bishops and three lay peers protested; but it was carried into effect without any difficulty in the country, and the visitors found no complaint with respect to it in any part of the kingdom.[1] Thus was the first Prayer Book of Edward VI. substituted for the old services, and though a few alterations have since been made, yet substantially the Church services became then what they are now, and the Reformation was completed in its main features. In the same session all previous laws about fasting were repealed, but it was made an indictable offence to eat meat on Fridays, Saturdays, Ember days, or in Lent. Another Act removed all prohibitions against the marriage of priests.

In 1549 a visitation was made by the royal commissioners, whose instructions[2] were to forbid the use of ceremonies other than those appointed in the Book of Common Prayer, to insist that the teaching of the clergy should be in accordance with the law, that there should be no selling of the Holy Communion, and that it should not be celebrated in any church more than once on any day except Christmas and Easter Days. This last provision was meant to put an end to the celebration of private masses for the dead, for which the clergy used to be paid. An Act of Parliament required all the old service books to be given up to be destroyed, and all images which had formerly belonged to churches to be defaced. Henry VIII.'s primers, however, might be kept, provided that the invocations to saints contained in them were blotted out. [3]Against this Act the Bishop of Lichfield and five other Bishops protested.

In 1550 a new form of ordination service was drawn up by a Royal Commission, by authority of an Act passed the previous year,[4] and came into force in April;

[1] Burnet, ii., 148, 164.
[2] Printed in Burnet, iv., 288.
[3] Burnet, ii., 227.
[4] Burnet, ii., 225, 228.

and an order in Council was issued to all Bishops to remove all altars, and to set up tables everywhere for the communion to be administered in some convenient part of the chancel.

In 1552 the second Prayer Book of Edward VI. was authorised by Act of Parliament, and was to be used from the Feast of All Saints in that year. The Confession and Absolution were added, extreme unction and prayers for the dead were omitted, and a few minor alterations made, bringing the whole of the services into almost the same form in which we now have them. The Act required all persons to come to Church every Sunday and holy day. An Act was also passed, in consequence of doubts having been raised on the point, making the marriages of priests good and their children legitimate. The 42 Articles of Religion which had been drawn up the last year were agreed to now by Convocation. And it being alleged that the Visitors for suppressing the chantries had embezzled a good deal of the profits of them, a strict enquiry was ordered into the matter, and many suits instituted about it in the Star Chamber.

Edward Deyos appears to have been Vicar in 1553. In that year[1] Visitors were appointed to examine and make an inventory of all Church plate; they were to give one or two chalices of silver, or more at their discretion, to every church, chapel, or cathedral, and were to distribute comely furniture for the communion table and for surplices. All the rest of the linen was to be sold or given to the poor; the copes and altar cloths were to be sold, and all the rest of the plate and jewels was to be delivered to the King's treasurer. There is nothing to show that Ruyton lost anything by this act of spoliation. The following Indenture, the original of which is in the Record Office,[2] was made

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[1] Burnet, ii., 344.

[2] Q.R. Church Goods $\frac{8}{21}$.

and an order in Council was issued to all Bishops to remove all altars, and to set up tables everywhere for the communion to be administered in some convenient part of the chancel.

In 1552 the second Prayer Book of Edward VI. was authorised by Act of Parliament, and was to be used from the Feast of All Saints in that year. [illegible] and Albs [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible] for the priest were ordered, and a [illegible] [illegible] really, [illegible] the minds of the [illegible] [illegible] against the altar [illegible] which we [illegible]. The Act required all persons to come to Church every Sunday and holy day. An Act was also passed [illegible] of persons having been [illegible] on the [illegible] [illegible] the marriage of priests good and their children legitimate. The 42 Articles of Religion which had been drawn up the year [illegible] were issued to [illegible] [illegible]. And it being alleged that the Church [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] had [illegible] a good deal of the [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] the country and many were [illegible] about it in the High Commission.

Edward [illegible] appears in [illegible] year 1552, in which Royal Visitors were appointed to examine and make an inventory of all Church plate, [illegible] give one or two chalices of silver, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] country [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] All the rest of [illegible] [illegible] to sell [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] King's Treasury, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the act of spoliation. The following inventory, the original of which is in the Record Office, was made

between the Visitors and the representatives of the parish.

This Bill indented made the 13th day of May in the seventh year of our most dread sovereign lord King Edward the sixth between Andrew Corbett Richard Manwaryng Knt and Richard Newport Esquire on the one part and Thomas ap John Robert Arnwey Churchwardens Edward Deyos and Thomas Phelyps P Humphrey Ward and John Bedall and John Shelvock on the other part Witnesseth that we the said Thomas Robert Edward and Thomas Phelyps Humphrey Ward John Bedall John Shelvock do bind ourselves by these presents to have unstolen unsold or unembezzled one chalice of silver with the patent thereunto 3 bells now remaining within the Church of the . . . of Royton and we will answer therefor. In witness whereof we have put our hands the year and day above said.

This is unsigned, unless five crosses at the foot represent as many signatures; there are no witnesses. It shows, however, that a chalice and paten and three bells were in the church at that time, all of which have since disappeared. The P after Phelyps' name has a mark of abbreviation after it, and seems to stand for priests, and we presume that Edward Deyos, the first mentioned, was vicar, and Thomas Phelyps his curate. On the 6th July in this year the whole current of legislation was changed by the death of Edward VI. and accession of Queen Mary.

Queen Mary immediately upon her accession forbade all preaching whatever, even by a clergyman in his own parish, without licence from the Crown.[1] The issuing of these licences was put into the hands of Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, and he had authority to send preachers to any cathedral or church he might think fit; thus the mouth of the clergy in favour of the Reformation was effectually closed. All King Edward's laws about religion were repealed by Parliament, and it was made penal to disturb the preachers or to hold

[1] Burnet, ii., 380, 382.

meetings to alter anything of religion established by law.

In 1554 the Queen sent instructions[1] to the Bishops to remove all married clergy and to punish heretics, and a large number of clergy were deprived in consequence.[2] All laws against the Papacy since the 20th Henry VIII. were repealed, and the laws against heretics were revived.

In 1555 first fruits were abolished by Act of Parliament, and the Church lands, tithes, and tenths, which were in the Queen's hands, were restored to the Church. In this year two Protestants were burnt at Lichfield, and two at Coventry.[3] In 1557 another man was burnt at Lichfield.[4]

In 1558 the death of the Queen on the 17th November stopped the persecution, and the long reign of Elizabeth established the Reformation on a firm footing. She immediately issued a proclamation[5] for reading in English the Gospels and Epistles, the Lord's Prayer, Apostles Creed, ten Commandments, and Litany, and forbidding the elevation of the host at mass.

In January, 1558-9, Parliament met, and immediately restored the Queen's supremacy and abolished the Pope's, restored the Prayer Book, with a few alterations made to meet the views of those who believed in a corporal presence in the Sacrament, and restored to her the Church property which had been surrendered by Queen Mary. Against all these Acts, Bain, Bishop of Lichfield, who had been appointed by Queen Mary, protested, and soon after, for refusing to take the oath of the Queen's supremacy, he was deprived. Of 640 parish clergy in the diocese, not more than 14 resigned their livings on this final establishment of the Reformation. Bain died before the consecration of his successor

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[1] Printed in Burnet, iv, 333.
[2] Burnet, iii., 339.
[3] Burnet, iii., 493.
[4] *Ib.*, 543.
[5] *Ib.*, 585.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Bentham in 1560.[1] Bentham was an active reformer, and had risked his life by ministering regularly to the Protestants in London in Queen Mary's reign. All preaching without licence from the Crown was again forbidden, and injunctions were sent all over England, similar to those of 1547, but with some additions. All images, of whatever kind, were to be removed from the churches. As offence had been given by some indecent marriages of priests, it was ordered that no priest or deacon should marry without allowance from the Bishop of the diocese and two justices of the peace, and the consent of the woman's parents or friends; all the clergy were to wear their habits, for order and decency, and were only to preach if licensed by their ordinary; every one was to go to Church on Sundays and holy days; the Common Prayer and Litany were to be used on Wednesdays and Fridays in all churches, and a communion table was to be made for every church. Visitors were sent round to see that these injunctions were obeyed, and in the result only 80 incumbents throughout England resigned on account of the changes now made. All who remained read in Church a profession of doctrine[2] drawn up for them by the newly-appointed Bishops. Thus the Reformation was completed, and the Church services were put into substantially the same form in which we have them still.

By Letters Patent of the 8th May, in the second year of her reign, the Queen sold for £234 to Sir Thomas Hanmer of Hanmer, the Rectory of Ruyton and all houses, lands, and other property in Ruyton belonging to the Rectory, the clear yearly value of the whole being £8 13s. 4d., "excepting out of the said grant all bells and all the lead in and upon the premises except the lead in the gutters and windows." The church bells had been committed to the care of the Churchwardens and others under Edward VI., but

[1] *Dioc. Hist. of Lichfield*, 221.
[2] Burnet, ii., 626, iv., 393.

were perhaps now taken away and sold for the use of the Crown, as none of the date of Edward VI. remain in the church.

In 1569 the Pope excommunicated and deposed the Queen, and excommunicated all who should obey her laws, thus making a formal separation between his adherents and hers, and for the first time establishing a separate sect of Roman Catholics in England.

The church still possesses a chalice with cover, dated 1570. It was, perhaps, substituted for the chalice mentioned in the Bond of 1553, which has disappeared. Round it is inscribed "The Parishe of Ruiton Ano 1570."

William Roberts appears to have been Vicar in 1571, for the Register of Middle Church has the following entry:—"1571, June 8. Gulielmus Roberts Verbi Dei Minister apud Riton, duxit Dorotheam Birche famulam Thomæ Wilson Rectoris de Middle. Nupti fuere 8 June." No regular dissenting congregations had yet been formed, much less were there any recognised dissenting ministers; but "the word minister became usual in these times for distinction from the idolatrous priests of the Romish Church."[1] We may gather from this description of him, no less than from his marriage, that Roberts was a thorough friend to the Reformation; and from his marrying a maid servant we may suppose that he was not of very distinguished birth. Both Roberts and Birch are common local names now. The secular clergy had never had much social standing, and had been much looked down upon by the religious orders; and the Reformation had made their position worse than before, by depriving them of the payments made for masses for the dead, of offerings made at the shrines of saints, and of other similar profits, besides taking away the pecuniary support which the monasteries, no doubt, gave to the churches dependent on them. Accordingly, in King Edward VI.'s time, many

[1] Strype's *Life of Archbishop Parker*, p. 127.

of them are said to have betaken themselves to trades for a livelihood, and to have become carpenters and tailors, and even alehouse keepers;[1] and it was alleged that "the greatest part of them were so ignorant that they could do little more than read."

Thomas Davis was instituted 23 Dec., 1589. A clergy list[2] of 1602 informs us that he had taken no degree, but was "a preacher in his owne cure by the L. Bishop of Coven. and Lich.," that is, he held the Bishop's licence to preach in his own parish, but not elsewhere. Many incumbents were not then allowed to do even this. He was still Vicar in 1628;[3] we may presume, therefore, that he was the immediate predecessor of

John Edmonds, who was instituted 2 May, 1635.[4] The two oldest bells now in the church are dated 1637, and were, therefore, made during his incumbency. Archbishop Laud was now actively promoting greater reverence and ceremonial observance in the Church services, and our bells may probably be due to his influence. They are the third and fourth of the present peal of six, and are inscribed respectively "Gloria in excelsis Deo 1637," and "Richart Paine, Richart Paine Wardens 1637." There is a memorial stone in the chancel to "Mr. Thomas Payne of Erdstuston who died the 18 of December 1705," and another to "Richard Payne son and heir of Richard Payne of Eardeston who

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[1] Burnet, ii., 323.

[2] Shrop. Arch. *Trans.*, 2nd Series, vol. v., 258.

[3] Blakeway MSS in Bodleian, Shropshire Parochial Clergy.

[4] This is entered in the Book of Institutions in the Record Office under Ryton Rectory, the patron being the King; but under the same heading, and also under that of Ruyton Vicarage is entered a presentation by Thos. and Edw. Corbett of one Henry Miller on 1 Dec., 1636. The King was the patron of Ruyton Vicarage, and the Corbetts of Longnor were patrons of Ryton Rectory (near Shifnal), and two of them at this time were named Thomas and Edward. It it clear, therefore, that it was to Ruyton Vicarage that John Edmonds was appointed, and that Henry Miller was Rector of Ryton, near Shifnal.

dyed the 27 of December 1706 aged 25." These may, probably, be descendants of the Churchwardens who procured the bells in 1637. Outside the east end is a stone to "Margaret, the wife of Richard Payne, late of Wikey, who departed this life y^e^ 21 day of January in the year of our Lord 1729 aged 85." John Edmonds was deprived of his living for "delinquency,"[1] by the Parliamentarian party, and

Thomas Watmore was intruded into the living. As "Vicar of Riton" he signed a "Testimony of the Ministers of the Province of Salop to the Solemn League and Covenant," which is undated, but was "printed by F. N. for Thos. Underhill at the Bible in Wood St., 1648."[2] They "protest against the errors heresies and blasphemies of these times," and "avouch their ready assent to the Confession of faith presented to both Hon^ble^ Houses of Parliament by the Assembly of Divines called together and yet sitting by their authority;" and they detest the thought that "opinions eminently destructive to pietie and public peace, threatening and working the speedie ruine of Souls, should find Connivance and Toleration amongst us; being well assured that the Christian Magistrate cannot answer his neglect before God's tribunal if he be not an avenger to execute wrath on these evill doers: spiritual as well as temporal adulteries being an iniquitie to be punished by the Judges." This is signed by 59 Shropshire ministers, including Samuel Hildersam, Rector of West Felton, Stephen Lewis, Pastor of Baschurch, Richard Payne, Minister of Nestrange, William Rock, Minister of Aston. The great majority sign themselves Minister, Pastor, or Preacher, eight are Rectors, the Vicar of Riton is the only one who calls himself Vicar, and he had no right to the title, as his predecessor had been illegally deprived. The signatories would all be Presbyterians, not Independents, as the

[1] Blakeway MSS. in Bodleian, Shropshire Parochial Clergy.
[2] A MS copy is in possession of Mr. J. Parry-Jones, Oswestry.

former disliked toleration, while the latter were in favour of it,[1] though they would exclude popery and prelacy from its benefits. The minister in possession of Oswestry held Independent opinions, and did not sign this Testimony. The two Houses of Parliament had by ordinances of 1644 and 1645 abolished the necessity for ministers of the Church of England being episcopally ordained, and enacted that ordinations should be by the Presbytery;[2] and Watmore was presumably ordained in this way and placed at Ruyton some time after the surrender of Shrewsbury to the Parliament in 1645.

In Charles II.'s time some attention was paid to the church, and perhaps the present chancel arch was put in in his reign; for the two wooden tablets now fastened against the walls of the tower, on which the Ten Commandments are well painted in black letter, bear the date 1668, and were formerly above the chancel arch, together with the royal arms.[3] They were, no doubt, removed when the chancel arch was repaired in 1860. And on the outside of the same wall, above the roof of the chancel, is a stone tablet inscribed "F. B., R. P., C——, 1676." One or two of the initials are not very distinct, but the last two letters were, probably, C. W., meaning Churchwardens, and F. B. and R. P. the initials of the Churchwardens who did the repairs at that time.

Bagshaw's *Shropshire Gazetteer* of 1851 says that the south side of the church was built about 1696. The wall, however, is certainly Norman, but it may have been restored at this time.

William Griffiths, Vicar of Ruyton, was buried there on January 2nd, 1720,[4] and his widow Hannah on Dec. 17th, 1726. It was, probably, in his time that the

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1 Collier's *Church History*, viii., 297, 373.
2 Collier, viii., 274, 302.
3 MS. description of Ruyton Church about 1846.
4 Parish Register.

fourth bell of the present peal was procured. It is inscribed "William Hood and Tho. Powell Ch. Wardens 1716." The oldest existing Register begins in his time. The first entry of a marriage is on June 11th; of a baptism, July 14th; and of a burial, August 10th, 1719.

Edward Jeffreys was instituted 5 Oct., 1720.[1] His son Richard[2] was admitted an under-graduate at All Souls, Oxford, aged 19, in 1731. The Vicar was buried at Ruyton, 14 Dec., 1751, aged 70, his widow Elizabeth 14 March, 1774, aged 84, and their son Thomas 25 June, 1791, aged 60. Their tombstones are outside the east end of the church, but were formerly placed on the floor of the chancel.[3]

The following table of the Vicar's dues at this time used[4] to be against the north wall of the north aisle, but is now in the tower :—

Peter Basnett. Corbett Edwards. Wardens. 1736. There belongeth to the Vicar of Ruiton the offerings or oblations of the Widowers and Widows and the Widows and Widowers of all the servants and children Communicants of the Township of Shotatton together with the 3rd part of all other tythings, only excepting the offerings and oblations of married couples which is paid to the Vicar of Ness Strange.

Item there belongeth to the Vicar of Ruiton Mortuaries from 3/6 to 10/- according to the Statute of the 21 Hen. 8th.

Item for burying in the Chancel 6/8, and for burying in the Churchyard 1/4.

Item ye offerings for married couples pr banns 2/6, with license without banns 5/-.

Item ye offerings for women after child bearing 1/-.

Item ye offerings at Easter, for each person at age to receive ye Holy Sacrament 2d besides what each tradesman pays for his hand which is 4d.

Item servants wages 1d per pound, Smoak and garden 2d.

Item for all lambs under number 5 ye Vicar is to have half one, if there be 7 he is to have a whole lamb if he please and

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[1] Book of Institutions in Record Office.

[2] Blakeway MSS., No. 3, Shropshire Parochial Notices in Bodleian Library.

[3] Parkes' "Drawings of Churches," &c, BM., Add. MS. 21,180.

[4] Rev. Edw. Williams' MSS., Add. MS., 24,236.

pay to the owner 9d, at 10 he is to have a whole lamb. Wool is tythed after the same manner per pound.

Item there belongs to the Vicar of Ruiton all tythe piggs and geese with eggs or fowls, ye custom is to have a pigg at 7 and carry ye odd on to 10. For every cow 1d and every calf ½d.

Item for every colt foaled in ye parish 4d.

Item there belongs to the Vicar all tythe hay and clover throughout the whole parish excepting the township of Wikey.

Item Hemp and Flax is gathered by the 10th handful or if bound by the 10th Sheafe.

Item ye tythe of Ruiton Cornmill is 3/4, of the New Mill 3/4.

Item ye Vicar hath 1 pew in ye Chancel on ye right side of ye reading desk joining to ye body of ye Church.

Item ye Clerks wages consists of 3d for every mise place Cottagers pays 2d Making a grave in ye Churchyard is 1/- Officiating fees pence. Marriage offerings 1/-, and for women after childbearing pence.

One of the Churchwardens who put up this table is commemorated on a stone slab formerly in the church, but now outside the east end. The inscription is :— "Peter Basnet elder son of Peter Basnet of Wikey. As his body lies in the silent grave It is a portion that we all shall receive. Ob. Nov. 1749, æt. 59."

Francis Wilde, who was admitted Rector of Knockin in 1750,[1] was instituted to Ruyton, 6 May, 1752.[2] It is said that about the middle of this century the Vicarage was burnt down, and the old Parish Registers destroyed. If this happened just at this time, it may account for the living being allowed to be held together with that of Knockin. On the 9th September, 1759, Wilde's wife was buried at Ruyton, and the following inscription to her memory is on a brass plate on the south wall of the chancel :—"Underneath rest the remains of Hannah ye beloved wife of Francis Wilde, Vicar of this Parish, who died Sept. 6, 1759, aged 35. Conjux pia casta fidelis Infelix puerpera." From this time Francis Wilde's name never appears on the Ruyton registers, which are signed by curates or clergymen from neigh-

[1] Blakeway's MSS. in Bodleian.

[2] Book of Institutions in Record Office.

bouring parishes. In the Knockin register, under the year 1759, is inserted a note that "Wilde Vicar of Ryton was Rector of this Parish and dyed July 1761." He never himself signed the Knockin registers, and after his wife's death he may have gone away and not resided in either parish. Neither of the registers record his burial. He died on the 13th July, 1761.[1]

David Owen was instituted[2] 28 Sept., 1761, and the register records that on the 27th June, 1766, "Rev. David Owen of this Parish Batchelor was married to Ermine Digry of this Parish, Widow," which entry the bride signed by her mark. The witnesses are two Braddocks. The Vicar himself was not a man of much education, to judge from his writing in the Vestry Minute Book. In that Book there is an entry for wine in the year 1777, at Easter 11s. 6d., Michaelmas 4s. 8d., Christmas 11s. 6d. Similar entries occur in other years, and one of them shows that the price given for one bottle of wine was 3s. Apparently wine was got only on those three festivals, but a great deal was consumed then. Probably some of it was treated as a perquisite of the Vicar and Churchwardens.[3] From Nov., 1775, to July, 1776, fifteen persons are entered as having died of small pox. On the outside of the priest's doorway in the south wall of the chancel is carved the date 1777. In this year the Rectory and tithes of Ruyton, together with the Manor, were sold by Lord Craven to a Mr. Ashby. This sale would include the rector's rights in the chancel, and the date may have been carved as a record of it. The tithes and rectorial rights have since become divided among a good many holders.

On the 12th July, 1785, the dwelling house of Richard Richards of Ruyton, was registered at Quarter Sessions as a place of religious worship for dissenters.

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[1] *Gent's Mag.*

[2] Book of Institutions in Record Office.

[3] See Churchwardens' Accounts of High Ercall, Shrop. Arch. *Trans.*, 2nd Series, vii., 237.

A brass plate formerly on the floor of the chancel was inscribed[1] "The Rev. David Owen died the 28th Oct., 1786, aged 77 years;" and on a stone outside the east end is "Underneath lieth the remains of Ermin Owen, relict of the Rev. David Owen, Vicar of this Parish, who departed this life the day of April, 1799, aged 77 years."

David Evans was the next Vicar, but was not instituted[2] till 26 Sept., 1788. As he lived till 1821, there are old men who still remember him and tell stories about him. It is said that he was a Welshman, and curate of Oswestry, and that he walked all the way to London to ask the Lord Chancellor for the living. His shoes were worn into holes and the Lord Chancellor's servant took him for a tramp, and refused to admit him, but he insisted on waiting, and succeeded in seeing the Chancellor. Lord Thurlow, who held the office, asked who his patron was, to which he replied, "The Lord of Hosts, for I have no other." Lord Thurlow rejoined, "This is the first application from that quarter I have ever had," and handed Mr. Evans over to a head servant to be taken care of for the night. On Mr. Evans' return home, he found the appointment had arrived before him. It is said that in his time Corbet, the ghost who troubled Coton, was specially active and malevolent, used to take off the wheels of carts, and do all kinds of other mischievous things. So the Rev. David Evans and five other ministers proceeded to Coton, and after praying and preaching there for more than two hours, they succeeded in getting the ghost into a bottle by about midnight. They then threw the bottle into the west corner of the pool in front of the house, under the oak tree which has now fallen, and is lying on the bank. The ghost was by this means laid for 1,000 years.[3]

[1] Parkes' "Drawings of Churches," &c., Brit. Mus. Add. MSS 21,180; Rev. Edw. Williams' MSS., ib. 24,236.

[2] Book of Institutions in Record Office.

[3] Cooper, the old schoolmaster, aged 78, says that his mother remembered this performance.

Mr. Evans' entries in the Vestry Book are not more literate in writing and spelling than those of his predecessor; but the fabric of the church received some attention in his time. On 5 March, 1798, he enters that the Vestry resolved "That a galery be erected in the south aisle of the Parish Church of Ruyton across the belfry, and a new window to be made to give light to the galery above and the forms below, to be built at the general expense of the parish at large." On 9 Nov., 1799, it was determined to propose to the parish "that Mr. Telford who built the Platt Bridge be desired to inspect the church and to propose a plan for the levelling, repairing, pewing, and otherwise putting the church into good and substantial repair." Nothing, however, seems to have been done, for on 30 Nov., 1807, there was another resolution to raise a subscription "for the purpose of raising the floor and pewing the Church, and also for erecting a gallery at the west end of the same." Our picture of the church represents it as it was in 1809, and is taken from Parkes' "Drawings of Churches" in the British Museum.[1] In 1810 it was resolved that "The Committee formerly appointed to carry into effect the pewing and repairing the said Parish Church, which Committee have hitherto done nothing, be dissolved, and that the Vicar, the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, and Mr. John Broughall, Churchwardens, be authorised to apply for a faculty for new pewing, raising, repairing, and erecting a gallery within the said Parish Church;" and accordingly, in 1811, a contract by Richard Owen to do the work for £403 8s 8d. was accepted. It would appear from the above entries that the church had hitherto been supplied with forms only, and that pews were now introduced for the first time. The sittings were sold by auction to raise money for the improvements. In 1812 it was further resolved that a new window be made in the lower part of the said parish church, opposite the gallery; and that a

[1] Add. MSS., 21,180.

window be made over the belfry door, and to be glazed, the estimate for each of which works was £15. The small marble font, now in the church, but not used, was presented in 1813 by the Hon. T. Kenyon. The very rough stone one which had preceded it, is now concealed under the floor of the pulpit.

On the 12th June, 1815, it was "judged necessary to erect new Gates to the Churchyard with stone pillars;" and it was also "agreed that for the encouragement and it is hoped for the improvement of Psalm singing in Church, that an annual dinner be provided at the Craven Arms,[1] with such other refreshment as will make them comfortable for the evening, to be paid out of the poors loan." The National School was built by subscription in 1819, the site being given by the Misses Kinaston.[2]

Mr. Cooper, the former schoolmaster, says "Mr. Evans in his latter years was always chewing tobacco, and drank a great deal. When I was about five years old, I was playing with other children in the road about nine o'clock on a Sunday morning, when we saw the Rev. David Evans and Braddock the Clerk coming along. We stood aside and bowed to them, and they went into the Ball Inn.[3] We saw them sitting inside with a jug of beer, and a sweep came into the room, who had slept in an outbuilding all night, and sat down with them. The Vicar said, 'Now we are two ministers meeting together' (both being in black). Then they got to high words, and at last the Vicar hit the sweep. The sweep did not hit him back, but swung round his bag and peppered the Vicar and Clerk all over with soot, so that when they came out, we could not tell the sweep from the Vicar, except that the Vicar always wore a velvet coat and breeches, and shoes with buckles,

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[1] Now the Powis Arms.

[2] Bagshaw's *Shropshire Gazetteer*, 197.

[3] It has long ceased to be an inn, and was lately occupied by Mr. R. Brown. The parish doctor now has his surgery there.

and we could see the buckles. The Clerk took him away and got him washed before service."

The following inscription is on a stone on the wall of the aisle:—"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. David Evans, 35 years Vicar of this Parish. He was born Jan. 1, 1753, and died June 1, 1821. Also of Mary his wife, who was born May 24, 1758, and died Aug. 11, 1826, at Lichfield, where she was buried. Also of John Griffiths, their son, who was born May 29, 1782, and died Nov. 10, 1804." Mr. Evans' son George had officiated as curate since 1817, and remained in charge of the parish after his father's death. It was long before the vacancy was filled up, for in March, 1823, George Evans still signs the register as curate; but the living was at last given to him.

George Evans signs the register as Vicar for the first time 8 Sept., 1823. He was baptised at Ruyton, 18 Oct., 1793. The Independent Chapel, which is the oldest dissenting chapel in the parish, was built in 1833. In 1837, the flagon, chalice, and paten now in use, and also a new organ, were given to the church by the Misses Margaret and Ann Kinaston of Ruyton Hall. At this time there had been a great increase in the population of Ruyton, as indeed of most places throughout the kingdom. A statement issued in 1344 informs us that the church then had 294 sittings, of which 264 were appropriated, and 30 free. In 1821 the population had been 862, and the number of inhabited houses 168; in 1841 the population was 1,081, the number of houses 208; and between 1841 and 1844 six additional houses had been built. It was, therefore, felt necessary to enlarge the church, and in 1844-5 the present north aisle was built at a cost of £628 12s. 6d., raised by voluntary subscriptions. On a wooden tablet in the aisle is the following inscription:—"This Church was enlarged in the year 1845, by which means 96 additional sittings were obtained, and in consequence of a grant from the Incorporated Society for promoting the enlargement, building and repairing of Churches

and Chapels the whole of that number are hereby declared to be free and unappropriated for ever, the provision of Church room previously to the alteration being to the extent of 294 sittings, 30 of which number are free." It is said[1] that in the rubble of the old wall pulled down for this enlargement were found several pieces of painted plaster, no doubt belonging to the previous aisle of the 14th century. At the same time a Church rate was levied to put the old part of the church into the same state as the new. The east window of the north aisle was painted at Munich about 1855, by a firm which had put up similar windows in Cologne Cathedral, and is a memorial to four children of the Rev. George Hunt, second son of Mr. Rowland Hunt of Boreatton, who all died in 1831-2. The figures of the two girls are portraits taken from a photograph of a picture of them. One of the brothers of these children afterwards became the Right Hon. George Ward Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer and First Lord of the Admiralty. The subject of the window is Christ blessing little children. The water behind represents the pool at Boreatton, and the hills are the Breidden. An inscription in memory of the parents of the children is on the north wall of the chancel.

In 1839 to 1847 the tithes of the parish were commuted, the Vicar receiving a rent-charge of £250 per annum, and being relieved from the necessity of collecting from his parishioners the various dues mentioned in the table quoted above.

A tablet in the chancel is inscribed: "Sacred to the memory of the Rev. George Evans, M.A., thirty-six years Vicar of this parish. He died October 6th, 1859, aged 65 years. Also of Elizabeth his wife, who died April 14th, 1866, aged 72 years."

Frederick Paget Wilkinson was instituted early in 1860. He had been Curate of Ponsonby, in Cumberland, 1854-5, Chaplain to the Bishop of Argyll and the

[1] By Jas. Cooper.

Isles 1855-7, Rector of Great Orton, Cumberland, 1857-9. In the same year, 1860, the Primitive Methodist Jubilee Chapel on the Brown Hill was built. Mr. Wilkinson at once took up energetically the repairing of the chancel, the necessity of which had been recognised before Mr. Evans' death. £37 was taken from the Church rate for repairing the chancel arch, but the chancel was repaired, re-roofed, and re-seated by contributions from the tithe owners in proportion to the amount of their tithes, amounting altogether to £248 11s. There were also considerable voluntary subscriptions.[1] The glass in the four small Norman windows was given by the Rev. John Evans and Canon Evans, nephews of the late and grandsons of the previous Vicar; one south window by Rowland Hunt, Esq., of Boreatton, the other by Miss Campbell. The east window was filled with glass by a subscription of £100 as a memorial to the two Misses Kinaston of Ruyton Hall, who had died in 1838 and 1845. A monument to them and several former members of the family is on the wall of the north aisle, and a stone in memory of others forms part of the pavement near the pulpit. The builder employed for the chancel was Mr. Morris of Oswestry, and the architect was Mr. Pountney Smith. It was completed early in 1862. At the same time an addition to the Churchyard was made at an expense of £112, paid out of the poor rate. The easternmost window in the wall of the aisle was filled with stained glass "To the glory of God and in memory of Frederick Lionel Wilkinson, died Jan. 27, 1864, aged 5 years." Soon afterwards the main body of the church was restored at a cost[2] of £1066 12s. 9d. The floor was lowered to one of the old pavements (one still older having been found some inches below), and was re-paved; the church was warmed with hot water, and was re-seated with open pews of oak; the gallery

[1] See *Parish Mag.* for April, 1871.
[2] *Parish Mag.* for March, 1871.

was removed, the large west window was filled with glass, a new organ was put up, and three new bells hung, being the 1st, 2nd, and 6th in the present peal of six. The 1st treble is inscribed: "1868. God save the Church our Queen and Realm, and send us Peace in Christ. Amen." The 2nd: "1868. Rejoice in the Lord." The 6th, tenor: "1868. We praise thee O God." The other three, dated 1637 and 1716, have been already described. They are in the key of B flat. A new and larger font, of Bath stone, was presented by Mr. Walford, and a new window near it, in the south wall, by the Rev. Leonard Slater, formerly a curate here. An inscription under it says that it is "To the glory of God and in memory of Frederic Silas, born 17 Feb., 1844, died 25 Nov., 1850; and George Grimshaw, born 15 March, 1845, died 29 Nov., 1850, the beloved children of the Rev. Leonard and Elizabeth Norris Slater." The church was re-opened after the restoration on Thursday, 17 Sept., 1868. Meanwhile at the other end of the parish the Hon. Mrs. T. Kenyon had built a new church at Pradoe, of which Mr. Rohde Hawkins was the architect, and Messrs. Morris the builders. The first stone was laid on the 18th June, 1860, the nave was opened 19 Oct., 1861, and the tower and chancel 1st Jan., 1865. Bishop Lonsdale gave leave for the sacraments to be regularly administered there on 28 Aug., 1867, and the first child baptised there after this was Lionel Richard Kenyon, a grandchild of the foundress of the church, who was baptised on the 1st Sept., 1867, in the small marble font given to Ruyton Church by his grandfather, which was brought over for the purpose. The font belonging to Pradoe church was given afterwards by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kenyon, in memory of their infant child, who died in 1863, and of Miss Emma Jane Kenyon, daughter of the foundress, who died in 1868. It was carved out of a stone from Mrs. Kenyon's quarry at Eardiston. The Holy Communion was first administered in Pradoe Church on the 15th Sept., 1867. The west window

was put in by the officers of the Shropshire Militia in memory of Rowland Whitehall Kenyon, youngest son of the foundress, and a Major in that regiment, who died in 1873.

In 1877, Ruyton Churchyard was again enlarged by the purchase for £100, from Mr. Minton, of the ruins of the old Castle, with 1 rood 24 perches of land. It was consecrated by Bishop Maclagan on Nov. 9th, 1881. In 1880 the church seats were re-arranged, and the whole of the sittings were declared free and unappropriated, to the great pleasure of the Vicar. In 1881 the Village Cross was erected at the expense of Miss Orde, the Vicar's sister-in-law, on the site of the Old Court House of the Manor. The hearse house was built in 1882. In 1883 a new clock was placed in the tower. In 1885 the two most easterly windows of the nave were filled with stained glass, and there is a small shield on the wall, which states that they were erected "To the glory of God and in memory of Richard Rowland Minton, who died Dec. 2, 1879; also Frances Anne, his daughter, who died March 11, 1864." In 1888 the tower screen was erected by Mr. John Humphreys of Hanley Hall, in memory of his niece, Catherine Basnett Oswell; and the Lych gate was put up by public subscription in memory of two sons of the Vicar, who died in 1886 and 1887, aged respectively 20 and 22. In the same year, on June 3rd, was held the first flower service in the parish, at Pradoe Church. In 1892 the church porch was rebuilt according to what is believed to have been its original 16th century design, by Mrs. R. R. Minton of the Hursts, Rock Ferry, Liverpool, in memory of her two sons, Richard Rowland and Thomas Powell Minton. In taking down the old one there was found built into the wall above the window the greater part of a 13th century tombstone, carved with an elaborate cross, with an outline of the sole of a boot on one side of it, and an object which may be an animal's head or a hatchet, on the other side. It is now preserved in the north aisle.

The porch was dedicated on the 5th August, 1892, when the Vicar preached what was to be one of his last sermons. He had been very unwell for some time, and on the 29th Oct. he passed away. The *Parish Magazine* in describing the funeral service says:—"It was a glorious service of praise and thanksgiving, a bright close of the earthly life of one of whose character the key note was charity—not only the charity that freely gave to those in need, but the still higher large-hearted charity that forgave the unkind word, that even when words of rebuke had to be spoken, were always followed with 'But I am sure you did not mean it.' He could not believe in intentional wrong-doing." On subscriptions being invited for a memorial to him, almost everyone in the parish contributed, and a beautiful reredos, designed by Messrs. Bodley and Garner, was dedicated by the Bishop of Shrewsbury on April 3rd, 1894. It represents St. John the Baptist, in whose honour the church is dedicated, baptising our Lord; on the right and left are two of his disciples, St. Andrew and St. John, and beyond them are St. Chad, the first Bishop of Lichfield, and St. Oswald, the champion of Christianity in this part of Mercia. On the 4th March, 1893, Mr. Wilkinson's widow followed him to the grave. The Primitive Methodist Chapel on Blackbow Hill was built in 1892.

William Backhouse Gowan was instituted 17 Feb., 1893. He was Curate at Farlam, Cumberland, 1877-9, and at Walsall 1879 to 1887, and Vicar of Ketley 1887 to 1893. The previous vicars had been presented by the Lord Chancellor, the advowson having come into the hands of the Crown on the dissolution of Haughmond Abbey; but in 1887, Bishop Maclagan succeeded in making an exchange, by which he gave up to the Lord Chancellor the presentation to some livings in Hampshire and one in Lincolnshire, and acquired that of nine in his own diocese, including Ruyton, Baschurch, and Fitz. Mr. Gowan was the first Vicar of Ruyton presented by the Bishop. In 1895 an alms dish in

memory of Miss Helen J. Hunt of Ruyton Park, was given by her sister. The church tower was struck by lightning on the 26th June, and was in consequence re-roofed and re-pointed ; and in 1896 a Church Mission Room, erected through the exertions of the Vicar, was opened at Wikey.

The following are the inscriptions now in the chancel of Ruyton Church, beginning at the east end.

On the north wall :—

To Francis Thornes and his wife, given in the History of Shelvock.

Beneath this, a tile in memory of Bishop Selwyn of New Zealand and Lichfield, who died 1878.

Beneath this a small plate on a round headed stone, inscribed "Adolphus Proctor, born 6th April died 23 April 1821."[1]

M.S.

Odiosa Multis grata mors patriam in domum
Saram reduxit leviter mœrentem luto.
Plorata amicis pignus hoc solatio
Libens reliquit testulam argillaceam
Nuper coruscam lampade e cœlo data
Amans maritus æviterno marmori
Donat tuendam, posteri ne nesciant
Mortalibus luxisse dum vixit deo.
Saræ Willaston Matronæ pientissimæ
E vita ærumnosâ ad beatam
Cum gaudio translatæ Gulielmus
Willaston coniugi dilectissimæ

M.P.

Obiit die Febr. 6 anº 1622 ætatis suæ 31.

To Rev. George Evans and his wife, given above.

In the Churchyard lie the remains of the Reverend George Hunt M.A. Second son of Rowland Hunt of Boreatton in

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[1] A Col. Proctor rented Ruyton Hall. This was, no doubt, his child.

the adjoining Parish Esquire. He was for 30 years rector of Barningham cum Coney-Weston in the County of Suffolk, where he laboured with earnest and unaffected zeal for the good of the flock committed to his care. He departed this life on the 19th of March A.D. 1853 aged 67 years.

Beside him rests Emma his wife daughter of Samuel Gardiner of Coombe Lodge Oxon Esqre She died July 17th 1862 aged 66 years.

The East window in the aisle of this Church was designed as a memorial of four beloved children who died A.D. 1831-32. Emma Sophia aged 12 years, Julia aged 7 years, Edward Vernon aged 3 years, Emma aged 1 year.

If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

On the south wall of the chancel.

On three brass plates screwed on, one below the other :—

(1) Twixt ye altar & ye south side of this
Chavncell lie buried Rich Kynaston of
Ruyton Gent who died Anno 1541 Tho his
Sonne, Rich his sonne, Tho his sonne, who died
July 6 1663 Rich his sonne, wth their sev'all
Relac'ons; lastly Margaret the daughter of
Tho Kynaston of Brandon Heath Esq.
later wife to Tho Kynaston of Ruyton
Gent She died March 10th 1676. In Memory
Of whom Tho Kynaston her sonne
In law cavsd this erected.

(2) Here also lyeth the body of Tho
Kynaston of Rvyton Gent who
Dyed the 12th of Septembr Anno 1678
Aged 52 years.

(3) Sacred to the Memory of
Jane Kinaston only child of
Tho Kynaston of Ruyton died July 1721
Wife of Wm Kinaston of Lee Co of Salop Gent
died at Ruyton August 1723 aged 92
Tho Kinaston Gent 2d son of Wm & Jane
Died 31st March 1762
Edwd Kinaston Gent of Ruyton son of
Edward 3d son of Wm & Jane by Ann his

Wife, daughter of Doctor Gee dean of Lincoln
and one of the Prebendaries of Westminster
Died 24th of April 1792.
Margaret Kinaston
Died 22 Novr 1621 Aged 74 years.
Bowley, Salop.

Beneath this is the Brass to the memory of Hannah Wilde, 1759, quoted above.

Sacred to the Memory of
Joseph Humphreys of Hanley Hall
Whose probity and integrity gained for
Him the esteem and confidence of all who
knew him no less than did his benevolence
and kindness endear him to his domestic
circle and more immediate friends
He died May 16 1851
Æt 70

To the Memory of Sarah Elizabeth Hunt
Youngest daughter of Rowland Hunt Esqr of Boreatton
Whose humble piety, steady principle
Patient resignation, & constant solicitude
To promote the welfare and happiness of others
Secured the esteem of all who knew her worth
And endeared her with peculiar affection
to those she lived with.
Their hopes of her joyful resurrection
Rest on the merits and mediation
Of the blessed Redeemer in whom alone
She trusted for acceptance with God.
She died at Ruyton Decr 24th 1825 aged 34.
Also
Of her beloved friend and sister Susanna Frances Hunt
Who died 19th Jan: 1866 aged 83
The window in the chancel bearing the legend
"I was sick and ye visited me" was erected to her
Memory by her nephew Rowland Hunt.

Beneath the last is :—

To the Glory of God and in loving Memory of Alexander
William Hunt Lieut: xiii Bengal Lancers aged 24 the

youngest & dearly loved son of the Rev^{d} T. H. Hunt & Charlotte his wife. He met with his death by a gun accident at Bareilly Feb. 22 1888 to the inexpressible grief of his afflicted father and sorrowing brothers and sisters and of all his relations by whom he was most dearly and deservedly loved, surviving his mother only 3 months.

They were lovely and pleasant in their lives and in their death were not divided.

What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter.

This brass was erected by his sorrowing father.

On the north wall of the aisle, at the east end, is a tablet, at the head of which is a shield, the dexter side of which bears the Kynaston arms, argent a lion rampant sable. The inscription is :—

In a vault underneath
in the hope of a joyful resurrection
through the mercies of a redeemer
are deposited the remains of
William Kinaston Esq^{r}
one of the masters of the High Court of Chancery
Recorder—and a member in Parliament
For the borough of Shrewsbury
who died 174
Dorothy his wife who died 1730
Also Margaret their youngest daughter
who died 1806 aged 76
Relict of Edward Kinaston Esq^{r}
of Ruyton
Whose remains are interred by his uncle
Thomas Kinaston Esq^{r}
in this Chancel in 1792
also Edward only surviving son
of Edward and Margaret
who died 1795 aged 25
and M^{rs} Martha a daughter of
Thomas and Jane Holland
of Teyrden in the County of Denbigh
and niece of William and Thomas Kinaston
died 1756
also Anne youngest daughter of
Edward Kinaston Esq^{r} and Margaret his wife
Born Nov^{r} 16 1763 died Oct^{r} 8th 1838

also Margaret eldest daughter of
Edward Kinaston Esq[r] and Margaret his wife
Born Ap: 25[th] 1762 died September 12[th] 1845
Enter not into judgment with
thy servants O Lord.

Above is a hatchment also bearing the Kynaston arms, with the same on a scutcheon of pretence.

There are two other hatchments on this wall, that in the middle has the Kynaston arms in the 1st and 4th quarters, and also in the 1st and 4th quarters of the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the shield.

The hatchment at the west end has the Kynaston arms in the 3rd quarter, and has an inscription on the margin, "Anna Maria Middleton died January 27, 1831. Buried at Great Comberton, Worcestershire."

Under the middle hatchment is the tablet to Rev. David Evans and his wife, quoted above.

Opposite the easternmost is a fourth hatchment, the arms on which appear to be: On a field azure semé de lys argent a lion rampant regardant argent.

On the south wall of the nave is the following table:—

Benefactions
to the
Parish of Ruyton in the eleven towns.

The ground for the garden, playground and erection of the school in the village was the gift of M[rs] Margaret and M[rs] Anne Kinaston daughters and coheiresses of Edward Kinaston Esq[r] of Ruyton hall.

Subscriptions for building the Schoolhouse and School 1817 and 1818

	£	s.	d.
The National Society	60	0	0
The trustees of the late Andrew Newton of Lichfield Esq[r] through the interest of M[rs] Muckleston of Walford	200	0	0
The remainder towards the expense of completing the building was subscribed by the land and tythe owners of the Parish, and principal inhabitants of the village and the vicinity ...	240	0	0
Total	500	0	0

1819
Subscription for the endowment of the School-master &c.

The Earl of Bridgewater	33	0	0
The trustees of Andrew Newton Esq^{r}	100	0	0
Bequest in the will of M^{rs} Phillis Lane	72	19	2
Saved out of the annual subscriptions up to Mid-summer 1839	232	12	8
	438	11	10

1812
The Honourable Thomas Kenyon of the Pradoe gave the baptismal font and the cushion and ornaments for pulpit and reading desk

1837
M^{rs} Margaret and M^{rs} Anne Kinaston gave an organ for the Church and a silver flagon chalice and Paten for the Communion Service

1838
M^{rs} Anne Kinaston left a legacy of £50 which was distributed to the poor of the Parish.

1866
Miss Hunt for the benefit of the scholars of Ruyton School. Interest of 100 0 0

1880
R. R. Minton for the Poor of Ruyton. Interest of 180 0 0

The two inscriptions on this wall relating to the erection of the windows have been quoted above.

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